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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2011

Party-goers were 'terrified' by man with a ball and chain – court is told

A SMALL group of people having an outdoor party in Barry, were confronted by an enraged neighbour, armed with a ball and chain flail and a knife.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that one of the partygoers was so terrified she had a panic attack.

The intruder, Carl Humphries (43) told them: "Turn the music off, or I'll be back and do some serious damage."

Humphries of Main Street, Barry, was sentenced to a community order for 12 months involving a supervision order for the same period.

He had been convicted by Vale magistrates of offences of unlawful violence, possessing an offensive weapon, and possessing a bladed item and had been committed to the crown court for sentence.

Prosecutor Jonathan Bushell said that at about 11pm on July 20, a small group of people were having a party outside the flat of Poppy Clarke, in Main Street, Barry.

"There were no more than six people present smoking and chatting in the garden. Suddenly, there was a noise in the house and Humphries, who lives upstairs, confronted them with a ball and chain flail and a knife. He brandished the weapons and threatened them."

"They were absolutely terrified

CROWN COURT report by AJ SICLUNA

and Ms Clarke had a panic attack. One was about to jump over the garden wall," said Mr Bushell.

The police were called and Humphries later told them the noise was so loud, pictures on a wall were shaking.

His home was searched and in an airing cupboard, the police found a pole, the flail, a BB gun and a knife with a serrated blade.

He told the police he himself had called 999 about the music.

He told them "he just flipped" and had intended harming no one.

All he wanted, he said, was a quiet time and he would never have used the weapons.

Adam Sharpe, his solicitor, said that in August he fell down a flight of stairs and fractured a number of vertebrae. He was currently taking painkillers and antidepressants.

"He realises the seriousness of the case. He has no previous convictions and is in a fragile physical and emotional state. He has had an alcohol problem for some years and was detoxified."

"At the moment, he is not drinking. His reaction to the noise was totally unacceptable."

Judge David Wynn Morgan "What you should not have done in respect of what you saw, was to

go to the premises with a knife and a ball and chain.

"You are of previous good character, but you have a number of problems with alcohol and relationships. You have to deal with a great deal of pressure, but not always very well."

The neighbours, he said, had done nothing wrong.



'Cyres Sound' radio station is ready to go on air: the team is pictured with Richard Hopkin (back) and the head of the faculty of performing arts, Mrs Rebecca Fowler Thomas (left). SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 18.

Tesco renovation of pub in Dinas caused 'absolute chaos' – councillor

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

THE beginning of work by the supermarket chain Tesco, to renovate a public house in Dinas Powys, caused "absolute chaos" last week – according to a local councillor.

The disruption to the local area culminated in a woman in her eighties tripping over fencing and having to be treated for facial injuries.

The Vale Council also told The GEM that the works on site have not been authorised – four planning matters are to be considered in late September. It did add that some work might not need

planning permission.

Earlier this year Tesco earmarked the Castle Pub on Castle Drive in Dinas Powys as a location for a new Express store.

But Dinas Powys councillor Margaret Randall said that in her view it hadn't gone about things in the right way.

She said her belief was: "Tesco doesn't care whether it has got planning or not."

"They shouldn't have started work without full planning permission and have shown a cavalier attitude."

Coun Randall said that in her opinion, Tesco believed it was so powerful

that it didn't have to worry about the consequences of starting work prematurely.

"On September 6, the work caused absolute chaos."

"There were two big lorries, one with a crane, and the traffic was backed up along both Castle Drive and Murch Road."

Local shop owner Jan Mapstone, who has run Valley View Fruit Stores since 1997 with her husband, Tony, claimed that Tesco contractors took over eight parking spaces in front of the local shops when they should have only taken two.

She said: "I want to know how they can start

work when planning hasn't been granted. If it was a normal person, they would have to abide by the law."

"It is as if we are living in a country called Tescoland."

Mrs Mapstone added

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

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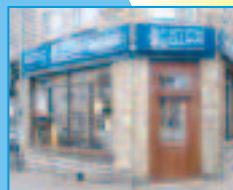
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Owner Paul (right) and A J (left) staff manager



'Keep your eyes peeled for Barry's errant hawk'

URGE COUPLE AFTER HIS GREAT ESCAPE

A CADOXTON couple are appealing to people in Barry to keep an eye out for their Harris Hawk, which flew off during a training session three weeks ago.

Ken Viscount and Angela Williams believe there's a good chance, the hawk is still in the area, following a report in The GEM last week.

Sue Jones contacted us to say she had seen a kestrel in Devon Avenue, not far from the town centre, and was disappointed not to have captured it on camera

because it was rare to see a bird of prey in the town.

Angela thinks Sue may have seen their Harris Hawk.

"It is easy to mistake a Harris Hawk for a kestrel.

"We've been looking everywhere for him.

"We are not that far from Devon Avenue, so it gives us some hope we may find him."

Angela and Ken live in Manorbier Court near Holme View Leisure Centre, so if Sue did spot their hawk, its three-week sojourn 'on the outside' has remained pretty local.

Ken explained: "The

hawk still has a rope on his feet. He is brownish in colour, with bits of white.

"I was training him and when he was meant to fly to me, he went up to a tree and flew off from there.

"If someone sees our hawk in Barry, we'd be grateful if they would get in touch with us immediately."

The Harris Hawk is also known as 'The Dusky Hawk' and is a medium-sized bird of prey, popular in falconry.

Ken and Angela can be contacted on 01446 735580; or on 07891 800 409.

TIM CHAPMAN

A happy 100th birthday, Lilian!



Mrs Lilian Spierling was delighted with her gift from Vale Mayor John Clifford. MAYOR of the Vale, Coun John Clifford, visited Gardenhurst Day Centre in Penarth, where he presented Mrs Lilian Spierling with a basket of flowers in celebration of her 100th birthday.

Mrs Spierling from Barry, is a mother of four; grandmother of 16 and great-grandmother of 12!

Coun Clifford said: "I am pleased to have the opportunity to congratulate Lilian on reaching the grand age of 100 and to wish her good health and happiness."

Local drug dealer 'addicted since age of 13' is jailed

A DRUGS dealer who has been addicted to cannabis since the age of 13, has been jailed for 10 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Ashley Thompson (18) unemployed, of Owain Close, Penarth, admitted supplying cannabis before Vale Magistrates and was committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Judge Patrick Curran told Thompson: "On the very day of this offence, you had been sentenced for the possession of cannabis with intent to supply.

"You said you'd been asked to look after that cannabis."

Report by AJ SICLUNA

But, said the judge, that very afternoon, he committed the present offence of supplying cannabis.

The judge said he had previous convictions for 21 offences, including six involving drugs and had received all forms of non-custodial sentences.

"You have been unwilling to comply with those sentences", he said.

The court heard that the offences of supplying cannabis came to light after the police executed a search warrant at Thompson's home, and found 27 wraps of cannabis with a street value of £270.

Thompson's solicitor,

Adam Sharp, said his ambition had been to join the army, but he had not been deemed suitable.

"He has had a cannabis habit since the age of 13, and in the past, cultivated the drug. He supplied cannabis, but only to friends.

"His profit was very small and he accepts it was a stupid thing to do."

Mr Sharp said he came from a close-knit family. Never before, he added, had he received a custodial sentence.

In the future, he said, Thompson hoped to obtain work in the construction industry.

He added: "With these proceedings hanging over him, his future has been uncertain."

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Prawn	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25
Chicken/Lamb Tikka	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70
Vegetable	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95
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Remembering Derek!



The family of the late Derek Williams of Barry Road, who sadly passed away in December last year, recently took part in a 10k walk at Margham Park in aid of Marie Curie.

A family spokesman said: "We want to thank everybody for their generous sponsorship."

Generous shoppers give Vale Foodbank a boost...

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

SHOPPERS in Barry donated more than half a ton of produce to the new Vale Foodbank – responding to volunteers who were out in force at Morrisons supermarket.

The generosity of local people surprised even the charity's helpers.

One foodbank volunteer Brenda Selby said: "I was amazed at how generous some people were – literally coming out of the supermarket with bags full of food for the collection!"

"Being a volunteer for the first time really opened my eyes too."

"It was lovely to see children getting involved and walking up to us with a big smile on their face and packs of biscuits or pasta in their arms!"

Foodbank volunteers

stood at the entrance to the supermarket and were able to give leaflets to the public before they went in to let them know what sort of products were most suitable.

People were then able to make their donations as they came out.

The Vale foodbank aims to help local people through short term crises by providing free emergency food parcels.

The foodbank will be reliant on items donated by the public, which makes collections like the one that took place in Barry so important.

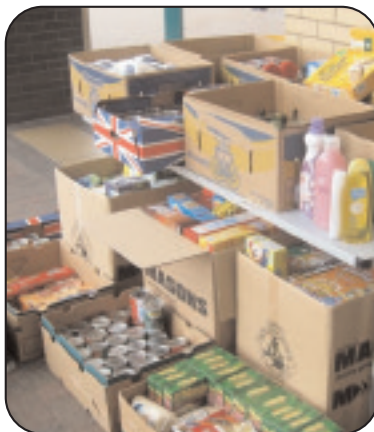
Vale foodbank coordinator Susan Lloyd-Selby, explained:

"This was our first supermarket collection and we want to say a big thank you to all those who gave their food or time to make it such a success."

"We are particularly



ABOVE: Vale Foodbank volunteer Susan Lloyd-Selby with Morrisons manager Mr Tony Ware – and (below) some of the foodbank's haul, courtesy of generous local shoppers.



grateful to Tony Ware and his team at Morrisons for their support.

"It is hard to describe the difference a food box makes to people who might otherwise go hungry, and

it is the general public who makes this possible. Thank you."

People are eligible for help from the foodbank after social services or a doctor has confirmed their need.

They are then issued with vouchers.

Foodbank volunteers point out that people can be plunged in to a sudden crisis if they lose their job or if they are currently out of work and face escalating bills.

The Vale foodbank will be launched by Jane Hutt on September 23 at Coastlands Family Church.

The enthusiasm of the Vale community in supporting the charity can be judged by the fact that a number of schools have pledged that items from their 'Harvest Festival' collections will go to the foodbank.

If anyone is interested in helping or needs to refer to someone in crisis they should how they can refer contact Susan Lloyd-Selby on 01446 410782 or email Susan on slloyd-selby@yahoo.com

Healthy school lunches at the flick of a finger!

BARRY

Comprehensive School welcomed new and returning pupils to school last week.

A schools spokesman said: "This year saw another massive intake into year-12, with students from local secondary schools choosing to continue their studies at Barry Comprehensive."

The new year-7 pupils began their first day with a special assembly before finding their way to their new classroom and meeting their new teachers.

This year's year-7 pupils are the first to use the school's new cashless catering system. The system allows pupils and staff to buy healthy lunches and tasty treats from the canteen quickly and securely, with the touch of a finger on a scanner, so no more lost dinner money!

Year-7 pupils in the music department also tried out some of the percussion instruments that will feature in a two-day 'percussion festival' to be held at the school on October 8-9.

From tubular bells to timpani, pupils of grade 3 and above (who can read music) are invited

to come and play with some of the UK's best players, including Colin Currie (one of the world's leading chamber percussionists), Simone Rebello, (director of percussion studies at RNCM), Dave Danford, who has performed with Pete Tong and Judge Jules, and Elliott Bennett, who performs with the Dave Stapleton quintet and DER Collective.

As well as these individuals, the RWCMD percussion ensemble and tutors from BBC NOW and WNO Orchestras will be attending the weekend's mixture of master-classes, concerts and rehearsals.

Information about attending the festival can be found at www.barrycomp.com.



ABOVE: A tasty treat being bought using the new cashless catering system.

BELOW: Year-7 pupils trying out some of the instruments that will feature in a two-day Percussion Festival! In October



GROUP REMEMBERS 'FRIENDLY INVASION'

NEXT year is the 70th anniversary or the arrival of American troops in south Wales – as part of the 'friendly invasion'.

To mark this occasion, 'Barry at War' Group will be holding a commemorative event and exhibition. The aim is to create Barry's first ever ' wartime Weekend'.

Although currently in the early planning stages, the aim is to recreate the look, sounds and feel of Barry Waterfront during the run up to the D-Day invasion of Normandy, with a large US encampment and a parade of vehicles that would have been a common site in

the town during 1943 and 1944. Barry was one of the main dispatch ports for material supporting the Allied liberation of Europe from D-Day until May 1945, with around 8,000 American troops (GIs) being stationed in and around the town.

The largest American camp in the area was at Sully, and around 600 local women married GIs and moved to the States with their new husbands after World War Two.

Barry at War, who are currently holding exhibitions in Barry Library and Victoria Park Rooms, would like to hear from anyone who has memories of the 'friendly invasion'.

They would also like to hear from anyone who might have photographs, artefacts or documents that could be loaned or copied by the group for inclusion in the exhibition.

Although the exhibition will be in Barry, the exhibition will include information from the surrounding towns, from Bridgend to Penarth.

To get people in the mood for 1940s nostalgia, Barry at War are holding a charity 1940s dance at the Paget Rooms, Penarth on Saturday October 29.

Live 40s music will be performed by the Cardiff & Vale Youth Jazz Orchestra, supported by specialist vintage DJ Dipsey Doodle, and 1940s dress is encouraged. Tickets are £10 in advance.

If you have anything you think might be of help or would like to participate in the preparation of the exhibition, please contact 'Barry at War' via our website at barryatwar.info or by calling Ade Pitman on 01446 405373.

ADE PITMAN

MP calls for five-day week for offenders

VALE MP Alun Cairns MP has welcomed Government proposals for tougher community sentences that will see offenders in the Vale made to do a full five-day week of hard work and job-seeking.

The work will include manual labour, improving public areas by clearing up litter, cleaning graffiti and maintaining parks and other green spaces.

The new rules will see unemployed criminals forced to work a minimum of 28 hours over four days, with the fifth day spent looking for full-time employment.

Alun Cairns said: "I've heard and discussed with many constituents across the Vale that many people want to see offenders punished for their crimes as well as giving back to the community."

"The introduction of a regular, meaningful working week will help break the cycle of crime and tackle the high rate of reoffending. We will then see fewer criminals, fewer victims of crime and big savings for the taxpayer – a thoroughly positive result for society and the local community here in Vale."

Atiya's talent contest success

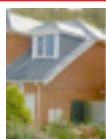
ATIYA HAMONDA from Barry was given the thumbs-up by judges at the Open Mic UK auditions and made it through to the regional final, on October 8 at Cardiff Coal Exchange.

This is a national talent competition which searches for the UK's best singers, singer/songwriters, rappers and vocalists of all genres, who perform covers or original material.

Atiya will now compete for a place in the National Final at The O2 in London and the chance to grab a breakthrough recording contract.

Thousands of hopefuls enter nationwide. Those who made it through the audition stage will take part in a live regional head-to-head battle before a professional judging panel to win a place at the National Grand Final.

For more information go to the website www.openmicuk.co.uk



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How a Barry community centre will be transformed

IMAGES by
NEIL MOORE

THESE are the very first images of the state of the art facility that Castleland Community Centre will be transformed into by the end of the year.

As reported in The GEM last week, local residents were given a preview of how the renovation would look by the time it is completed in December.

Among the improvements will be meeting rooms and an IT facility for community groups, a cafe and a new sports hall.

A Lottery grant of £496,471 has enabled the work to go ahead, but local people still hope to get £49,000 grant funding to upgrade the exterior of the building too.

An application for help from the Barry Regeneration Board has been deferred.

Eileen Moore, the chair of Castleland Community Association, said that work is scheduled to finish by December 23, and that it would be officially opened early in 2012.



A state of the art sports hall will be housed at first floor level.



ABOVE: How the new IT suite will look.



RIGHT:
The cafe area.

RIGHT:
Coun Val Hartrey outside the site of the former Castle Oak public house in Dinas Powys which is being transformed into a Tesco store.



Tesco's Dinas renovation causes local consternation

(CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1)

She said: "She is 84 years old and tripped over a 'Men at Work' sign.

"She had a swollen lip, cuts and a black eye. An ambulance was called and she had to spend six hours in hospital."

Another Dinas Powys councillor Val Hartrey called a Vale Council official to the scene.

She said: "I was very unhappy that pedestrians were being forced into the road as a proper safe route was not available.

"We all understand that any construction process is likely to cause an element of inconvenience but this situation was unacceptable.

AGREEMENT

"I contacted the Vale Highways department who, to be fair, acted at once. We managed to come to an early agreement with the contractors.

"A safe pedestrian route was introduced which was properly barriered off. In truth, this is really what should have happened from the start."

Tesco is seeking planning permission for: various signs; three air conditioning units and one condenser unit; installation of an ATM; and installation of a new shop front and external alterations.

The local authority planning

committee is due to consider the proposals in late September.

The GEM asked the Vale Council for a response on what had happened at the Valley View shopping parade.

'SAFE MANNER'

Rob Thomas, the head of planning and transportation at the Vale Council, said: "The works on site have not been authorised; however, four applications for planning permission are due to be reported to the September 29 planning committee.

"The developer was advised that any works are carried out at their own risk, pending consideration of the outstanding planning applications."

Mr Thomas pointed out: "However, it is worth noting that some work may not in any event require formal planning permission."

He continued: "A hoarding and pedestrian walkway has been provided by the developer to the front of the shop."

STANDARD WORK

"This is standard permitted work adjacent to roads and pavements and can occur at any shop development and the council issues permits to allow this to take place.

"To undertake this work in a safe manner a number of parking spaces had to be taken and pedestrians directed around the work-

ing area.

"We understand that there was an incident where, unfortunately, an elderly lady tripped over, and we will ensure that the details of this incident are passed to the contractor on site as pedestrian safety during these works is within their responsibility."

The GEM informed Tesco of councillors' concerns over local disruption, and of the incident involving the elderly woman.

Sophie Akokhia, Tesco's corporate affairs manager, said: "I would like to assure the Dinas Powys community that all work has been carried out legally.

"In particular, we have simply been improving the internal structure of the building and making improvements to the car park surface.

"This is all within Tesco's development rights and it remains that we have the relevant permission needed to convert the pub into a small convenience store."

She added: "Tesco takes its health and safety responsibilities very seriously."

"While the site was cordoned off correctly and in line with the local authority's guidance, we have since taken new measures to improve the visibility of our signage, and would like to apologise for the distress caused to the local resident."

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Police (and Navy) put seal of approval on Waterfront Festival

THE Barry Waterfront Festival was held recently and was again voted a big success – by the police!

A number of ships moored in Barry's No 1 dock included the Tall Ship *Stavros S Niarchos* and Royal Navy Off Shore Patrol Vessel *HMS Tyne*, which were open to the public.

"Local neighbourhood police officers, working with the organisers, spent the weekend patrolling the Waterfront and engaging with visitors making sure festival goes enjoyed a safe and happy atmosphere," a spokesman reported.

PC Newman was invited aboard HMS Tyne to meet the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Will Peters.

Lt Cdr Peters explained that one of the reasons why he enjoys visiting Barry with his crew is because the Vale Council has become the first local authority in Wales to sign the Armed Forces Community Covenant.



PC Andy Newman touring HMS Tyne with Lieutenant David Ruscoe.

The purpose of the Covenant Agreement is to ensure that serving personnel, veterans and their families have access to the services they need both during and after active service.

PC Newman added: "It was great that the Royal Navy was able to visit Barry again for the town's Waterfront Festival. Many of the ship's company came ashore to enjoy the event."

"The Waterfront Festival has been a great success again and this is largely due to the good natured visitors. I am very pleased to say that during the two days, there was only one incident which led to one person being arrested."

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'Not guilty' is verdict in police punch-up case

A BURLY policeman who punched a fellow officer during a rugby match, was cleared of grievous bodily harm on Monday.

The court heard that 6ft 4in Pc Brett O'Hagan had lashed out at colleague Detective Constable Gareth Bishop – gashing his face, blacking his eye, and breaking his nose.

But O'Hagan, (31), was found not guilty of inflicting grievous bodily harm and wounding after the jury at Newport Crown Court took two hours to reach its verdict following a five-day trial.

Recorder of Cardiff, Judge Nicholas Cooke QC, told the court: "I hope this officer can return to his duties."

Pc O'Hagan now waits to hear whether senior officers will launch an internal investigation into the incident.

He would not comment afterwards, but South Wales Police Federation misconduct manager, Howard Casey said on his behalf: "He is extremely relieved."

"There will be internal matters that need to be resolved by senior officers."

"Therefore, it would be inappropriate and unprofessional, to say

anything else at this time."

Pc O'Hagan had claimed in court that he was only trying to defend himself as DC Bishop ran "full pelt" towards him. He told the court he had damaged his left hand which had to be bandaged up during the game.

The court heard how the two constables from the same police force were on opposing sides in a hotly-contested local league match.

Prosecutor Michael Hammond, had claimed that DC Bishop saw Pc O'Hagan kneeling another player in the back and went over to split the two players up, pulling the defendant away.

"But as he turned to walk away, he was punched once in the face and knocked to the floor. As he lay there O'Hagan kicked him once in the face with a forceful blow."

DC Bishop, (38), who was wearing a protective skull cap, was rushed to hospital with cuts to his face which had to be stitched.

He later underwent an operation under general



ABOVE: PC Brett O'Hagan.

anaesthetic to reset his nose and will need a further operation later this month.

The alleged violence – which was not seen by the referee – erupted 20 minutes into the game between South Wales Police and village team Wattstown RFC.

Number eight forward O'Hagan – captain of the village side – claimed in court that the incident began when a South Wales Police player hung onto his legs.

He said: "I saw Gareth Bishop running full-pelt towards me – he must be four stone heavier than me."

"He was coming so fast that he was out to cause me damage. I lashed out with a straight-arm punch and he ran onto my fist."

He denied kicking DC Bishop.



ABOVE: DC Gareth Bishop.

The Vale Rocks choir set to make its bow

THE company behind South Wales Community Choirs, and the 'Don't Give Up!' project in aid of Tenovus Cancer Charity is launching a new venture as part of the TARGET (Theatre Arts: Get Involved) initiative in Llantwit Major.

Anyone aged between 11 and 25 is invited to join a non-profit community youth choir, in partnership with The Vale of Glamorgan Youth Service.

The choir will be open to all young people with a love of singing, and is completely non-selective. No audition or experience is necessary.

A spokesperson explained: "The Vale Rocks! will focus on bringing high-quality performance to local areas and, as part of our ongoing commitment to communities, we are proud also to support specialist groups and charities through our fundraising performances."

The Vale Rocks! will launch on Sunday, September 18 in Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major CF61 1ST. Tuition will take place every Sunday from 2pm-4pm, during term time.

The choir will sing well-known rock songs and popular favourites, with choreography included in the package, and will work towards a number of performances over the coming months.

Emma Rowland, Creative Director of Theatre Arts: Get Involved and composer of pop single 'Don't Give Up!', said: "We are incredibly excited to be able to build on the ground-breaking work of TARGET, and on the huge successes of our two established South Wales Community Choirs."

"Performing gives young people

a voice and a medium through which to be heard and the new rock choir will hopefully get even more young people involved in the exciting field of the performing arts."

Tina Simmons, Youth Development Officer for the Vale, commented:

"I'm really excited about this opportunity for young people in the Vale; this project is completely open access, regardless of ability, or background."

"Singing has the power to provide therapy and cross boundaries, and provide a positive experience."

"The most important part of it is the opportunity to make friends and for the young people to feel like they belong, and music is a wonderful medium through which to do exactly that."

For information about The Vale Rocks! and the exciting opportunities planned for its members, visit www.target-arts.org/thevalerocks.html or contact the Vale of Glamorgan Youth Service on 01446 792 141, Tina Simmons on 02920 701254, or Alex Dawson on 07531 150199.

Creative writing

BOVERTON-based writer Dahlia Kirby is running a five-week course on creative journal writing in Cowbridge, from September 19 at 11am, aimed at encouraging participants to find new and creative ways of expressing themselves through journal writing.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'Risks of gas exploration could damage way of life'

SINCE my last article in The GEM, stating my strong objection to the recent planning application for the exploration of gas here in the Vale, I have been inundated with masses of emails and letters from constituents, also voicing their objections to the application.

In its crudest terms, the planning application could be described as an application to simply dig a hole on the business estate in Llandow.

However, this is simply not the case. My main concerns regarding this exploratory application are the potential consequences of shale gas being found.

The weight of the argument on the next planning application will have then shifted significantly in favour of extraction.

Furthermore, it will expose the community to noise levels during the proposed seven weeks of exploration, for a continuous 24 hours a day.

Intrinsic to this will also be the increased traffic and disruption to the local community.

This is one of the key planning reasons we have to reject because of the absence of policy or guidance on this type of application from the Welsh Government.

The impact on local business is already an issue on the business park in Llandow – as an essential employer for the western Vale it's vital that companies are not forced to move away by the mining activity.

Local residents are also really concerned about the potential substantial drop in house prices, which would devastate the



Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

whole local economy, should shale gas be found.

Water pollution is a real concern, too, with several private bore holes in the immediate vicinity of the bore hole site.

The storage and removal from the site of the waste from the exploratory drilling process is another aspect that needs much greater investigation and evidence to ensure that the process can be delivered safely.

There will also be a detrimental impact on the already anticipated boom in tourism in the Vale of Glamorgan if this exploratory gas mining application is approved, as many investors and visitors will turn away from a potential gas mining area.

I am as alarmed and very concerned by this planning application, as I was when the first application from Coastal Oil & Gas was submitted earlier this year.

While I appreciate that this is an application for merely exploration purposes, the concerns I have are for the potentially far-reaching consequences of this research activity for communities across the Vale.

The developers will argue that shale gas mining would need a

new planning application that would be considered on its own merits.

The members of the planning committee are legally bound to consider the evidence, based on planning matters and on local and national policy.

Having been in touch with the local authority, I have also contacted the Minister in the Welsh Government to 'call in' this application, if they are not prepared or able to issue clear technical advice and guidance on the exploration and extraction of shale gas to local authority planning departments.

The Vale is a great place to live and work; I want it to remain that way.

Any gas exploration could put all this at risk.

Planning is a devolved matter and approval or rejection of these gas exploratory planning applications within Wales is defined as a responsibility for Welsh Government and the guidance they provide to our local authorities.

It is up to us to make the strongest case possible and to urge the Welsh Government to take action with regard to this and similar gas exploration planning applications.

MP HEADS FOR THE CROW'S NEST!

VALE MP Alun Cairns had a bird's eye view of the Barry Tall Ships festival as he scaled the height of the mast on Stavros S Niarchos at the Waterfront.

This year's Tall Ships Festival included visits from Stavros S Niarchos, The Matthew and the Royal Navy minehunter HMS Blyth.

Mr Cairns met Peter Coleman, the Wales and south east Wales trustee for the Tall Ships Youth Trust, who explained that the trust support and improve the lives of young people through the sailing experiences on board the Tall Ship vessels.

Mr Coleman invited the local MP to

climb the main mast on the Stavros S Niarchos – a challenge Mr Cairns was happy to accept.

Mr Cairns said: "The Tall Ships Festival at the Waterfront in Barry is a fantastic two-day event, for all the family to enjoy."

"The work The Tall Ships Youth Trust undertakes in delivering great experiences and developing skills and self-esteem for young people through sail training is remarkable."

"The opportunity to climb the main mast of the Stavros gave me a taste of the kind of fantastic experiences that the charity provides for young people."



Alun Cairns heads for the crow's nest!

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PACT MEETINGS

COURT PACT, 7pm on September 15 at Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster

WENVOE PACT, 7pm on September 15 at Ilminster Street, Barry.

GIBBONS DOWN PACT, 10.30am on September 21 at the Residents Board Office, Coychurch Rise, Barry.

CADOC PACT, 7pm on September 27 at Palmerston Community Learning Centre, Cadoc crescent, Barry.

WENVOE Community Council meeting, Wenvoe Community Hall on September 26 at 7pm.

SULLY PACT, Old School (Williams Room) on September 26 at 7pm.

DINAS POWYS PACT, St Mary's Church, Edith Road on October 3 at 7pm.

The Dogs Trust Cowbridge is almost ready for official opening by John Barrowman

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A genuine A-list celebrity will be in Cowbridge this Saturday to open the first Dogs Trust Charity Shop which is situated in Eastgate.

West End and TV star John Barrowman has agreed to cut the ceremonial ribbon at 12 noon, and will also be bringing along one of his dogs!

Dogs Trust staff have been working feverishly

for the last two weeks to prepare the shop for the opening – fielding dozens of donations a day from generous local people.

The organisation has also pledged to create a high-quality retail outlet that blends in with the rest of Eastgate.

Rhia Stankovic-Jones, the manager, said: "We wanted to ensure that the shop is in keeping with the look and feel of the area so it is more of a boutique than a traditional looking charity



shop with vintage fixtures and fittings.

"We'll be stocking everything and anything

– from books and clothes to ornaments and household items. Someone recently donated a Tiffany bracelet so you never know what you might find if you drop by!

"We're very excited to be setting up a shop here in Cowbridge and have been really touched by all the support and kind donations we've received.

"Having John Barrowman here to open the shop, is a huge privilege, and we're thrilled he will be making the time to come and visit us and conduct the opening."

Jael Jones, the assistant manager, gave an indication of how busy the staff have been in the run-up to the official

LEFT:

Rhia and Jael at the new Dogs Trust shop in Cowbridge have been unpacking dozens of donations from people in preparation for the official opening this Saturday, which will be carried out by Torchwood star John Barrowman.

opening. Every day has brought more and more donations.

"On Monday of this week, we had 40 bags! One man brought in a lot of Armani designer gear. "Someone else from Newport came over with a Land Rover and trailer full of donations."

The staff say the public and their dogs are all welcome to the opening when there will be "drinks and nibbles" too.

All funds raised at the shop will go towards funding Dogs Trust work across the country.

The trust has 17 rehoming centres in the UK and one in Ireland, which care for more than 16,000 dogs every year.

Last year the Bridgend rehoming centre found homes for 500 abandoned and unwanted dogs. It cares for over 70 dogs at any one time.

COLLEGE TAKES DELIVERY OF NEW AIRCRAFT FOR TRAINING AT ICAT



ABOVE: The Jetstream being delivered to CAVC's International Centre for Aerospace Training, based at Cardiff Airport.

CARDIFF and Vale College's International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) took delivery of a new aircraft during the summer.

The Jetstream 31 was decommissioned by the Royal Navy in March this year and was transported around 200 miles from RNAS Culdrose in south west Cornwall.

ICAT staff Allan Higman, Jon McGee and Leighton Marson were helped by two ex-Navy BSC Aerospace Engineering students, and spent roughly 250 man hours preparing the plane for its journey to Cardiff Airport.

They had to remove the wings, undercarriage and propellers, as well as removing smaller items, to ready the Jetstream for its journey.

"We filmed ourselves taking the aircraft apart so we can use the videos as a training aid when we come to put it back together," Allan explained.

Doing the job remotely over such a distance, meant all activities had to be planned out well in advance. All

the tools for the job were designed specifically for the work needed and manufactured locally, and specially fit the aircraft.

Manoeuvring the aircraft into ICAT's hanger caused a few tense moments, as there was only six inches clearance between its tailplane and the top of the hanger door!

The twin engine turboprop was used to train Navy navigators and electrical engineers and will now be used to train ICAT's Aero Engineering students. Passenger versions of the aircraft carry 19 people, making it the largest plane ICAT has ever had.

It also came with all its ground safety equipment, creating a safe environment for the students to work in, making the craft unique for aerospace training in Wales.

ICAT head of department Jeff Moore said: "The aircraft will be available for duty free and pleasure flights next summer, if anyone can provide us with two engines for it!"

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LAMBS get a glimpse of life below stairs



The group outside Tredegar House.

ON September 8, the sixth, and last, visit of a very successful 2011 summer programme for local history group LAMBS (Llansannor Ancient and Modern Buildings and Settlements) was to unexplored Tredegar.

The group had an entertaining guided tour of those parts of Tredegar House rarely viewed.

We first explored the extensive wine and ale cellars with their own cooling system maintained by a stream below the house.

We followed the path of late night guests who had been partaking of

the cellar products by sneaking up the 'bachelor' stairs to the upper floors.

The servants' sleeping quarters and more recent school occupation, were examined, along with the largest airing cupboard we had ever seen.

Folding the linen was a full time job in this house. Walking across the gardens and examining the stables, we were given further graphic descriptions of life 'below stairs' in Tredegar House.

LAMBS goes on its holidays in November, when the village group is to visit the Houses of Parliament with a tour arranged by Alun Cairns MP for the Vale. CB

BREW FOR THE FEW RAISES FUNDS FOR RAFA



PICTURED (left to right): RAFA members, Alun Cairns MP and Mayor of Llantwit Major, Coun Eddie Williams.

THE Vale MP Alun Cairns hosted a fundraising 'Brew for the Few' event last week to support the Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA).

The now annual event was held at Llantwit Major Rugby Club. Where Mr Cairns welcomed RAFA members, local residents and the Mayor of Llantwit Major who all helped raise £100 at the coffee morning.

RAFA has over 35 branches across Wales, and the Vale branch is based in Barry. It was set up in the 1940s to help servicemen and women who served in the RAF and Air Forces of the Commonwealth.

It has over 70,000 members across the globe including per-

sonnel currently serving in the RAF. The Queen is the patron of the charity.

Geoff Horton, chairman of the Barry RAFA branch commented: "I'd like to extend my thanks to all who supported the Brew for the Few event kindly hosted by our local MP Alun Cairns last

week. We're always keen to meet new members and to welcome back those who may have lost touch with RAFA over the years.

"The £100 raised at the event in Llantwit will help us continue to deliver our essential services to members within the Vale."

Call-out for Barry RNLI

BARRY lifeboat crew were called out in rough weather on Tuesday (September 13).

The volunteers on the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's Barry Dock all-weather lifeboat were called to help the Portishead inshore lifeboat off Clevedon.

A fishing boat had got into difficulty when a rope fouled its propeller and was unable to sail.

However, it proved unnecessary to cross the Bristol Channel, as they were stood down just off Sully Island, when the Portishead lifeboat reported that they were able to free the vessel.

Gerry Adams, the press officer for the Barry Dock Lifeboat, said that this was the typical team effort that is shown by all crews.

What qualifies as vintage?

AFTER a break for the summer, the September meeting of Dinas Powys WI began sadly, with a minute's silence for Rhona Wilson, a founder member of DPWI in 1939.

August proceeded to be a 'Baking' month.

We had a social evening and also a 'Posh' Tea, when older and former members, and other Institute members, were invited.

We began with a glass of Pimms, followed by delicate sandwiches, fancy cakes, strawberries and cream, all made and prepared by the committee, who were all wearing fancy hats.

A few of our committee helped with cakes and sandwiches for another Strawberry Tea for Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, when local celebrity, Charlotte Church, and her band entertained.

Cakes and sandwiches were also served at the village show, an annual event.

Our speakers for the evening were Steven and Kitty Cox from Penarth, who have been involved in the antique business for over 25 years, but only trading for just over two.

Steven began by telling us that an antique is over 100 years old and a vintage over 50 years. Georgian furniture is

the most expensive, but Edwardian is becoming collectable.

Miniatures are very popular, but female portraits sell better than male.

Pottery such as Doulton, Sevres and Meissen, and British, Scandinavian and Italian glass are expensive.

The Chinese now produce copies of Italian pottery.

Gold and silver prices are going through the roof, but without a hall-mark an item cannot be sold.

Only 19 carat gold will have a valuable stone in it.

The market for antiques goes in phases. It is difficult not to get caught, you should only collect what you like.

The very interesting and informative talk ended with some members' antiques being valued and Steven and Kitty then showed us some of their own valuables.

The competition was won by Sally Anderson, with a thimble from Malta and the raffle was won by Maureen Bater.

In October, our talk will be about Memorial Masonry, by Nich Thomas.

If you are able, please come and join us in the Lee Hall, Britway Road on Tuesday, October 4. We would love to welcome visitors.

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RECORD ENTRIES FOR DINAS POWYS SHOW AS THE WEATHER HOLDS OUT

THE recent Dinas Powys Village Show was voted a great success, attracting a record number of entries. As the weather held, outdoor activities, such as Punch and Judy, brass band music and a bouncy castle, were greatly enjoyed.

Inside the halls, were hundreds of colourful entries for the 120 classes catering – and there was huge interest in the cookery, fruit, flowers and vegetables, photography, craftwork, floral art, artwork, needlecrafts and all the children's entries.

The two-week gap between this show and the Penarth Horticultural Show seems to have benefited both events, and the future looks good!

VH

Young People's Classes 2011
Dell Smith Cup –
Nursery Classes: Alfie Sargeant.

J Brockhurst Cup –
Reception Classes:
Finley Purchase-Smith.

Aquarius Cup –
KS1 Years 1 and 2:
Elsa Clarkson.

Dinas Powys and St Andrews WI
Challenge Cup – KS2
Years 3 and 4: Moses West.

St Cyres School
Challenge Cup – KS2
Years 5 and 6: Alice Young.

Enid Jackson Cup:
Young Person with the
Highest Number of
Points in the Young
People's Classes: Alfie Sargeant.

Open Classes 2011
British Gas Wales Cup
for Cooking, Baking



The show committee, with chairman Val Hartrey.



Keith Hatton, first in the sweet pea class.

and Preserving:

Angela Reardon.

Harry Phillips
Challenge Plate for
Fruit and Vegetables:
Cecil Townsend.

Dinas Powys
Garden Society Cup
for Flowers, Shrubs
and House Plants:
Elizabeth Richard.

Randell Rose Bowl
for Floral Art: Gina Pritchard.

National
Westminster Challenge
Cup for Needlecrafts:
Irene Gannon.

D Hampton-Jeffery
Challenge Cup for
Painting and Drawing:
Connie Thomas.

Dinas Powys
Community Challenge
Cup for Craftwork:
Merry Metcalf and Vale
Plus Group.

Bernard McParlin
Cup for Photography:
Susan Crosby.

Women's Institute
Plate for Highest
Overall Number of
Points in the Show:
Elizabeth Richards.



Steve Thomas, joint winner of the Dinas Powys Community Challenge Cup (craftwork)



Elizabeth Richards, winner of the Dinas Powys Garden Society Cup



Coun Chris Williams, Chairman of Dinas Powys Community Council is pictured visiting the Fairtrade stand.

Impressive display



Pictures by
BERNARD BROWN



OFFICIAL WELCOME!



IVY COTTAGE, GILESTON

Situated in this idyllic Village and enjoying front sea views Ivy Cottage was built in the 1950s and the current owners have resided here for 22 years. The accommodation includes an entrance hall-way, living room, separate dining area, a hardwood conservatory, a refitted modern kitchen plus utility room with cloakroom/WC off. To the first floor there are 2 generous double bedrooms and a good size modern bathroom suite with shower cubicle. Outside the property is set on a wide plot with the various sections including lawn, patios, courtyard and storage areas. There is also a drive, additional parking for 3-4 cars and a single garage.

The property benefits from heating via LPG and all wood found within Ivy Cottage inclusive of

the double glazed units is hardwood lovingly restored, reinstated and maintained by the existing seller. All light fittings, carpets, curtains and blinds will remain at the property.

There is potential - subject to Regulations - to extend outwards over the kitchen to provide additional bedroom and en suite space. Gileston is located within 2 miles of Rhose Village, half mile of St Athan and half mile to the beach and superb coastline.

Please contact
01446 711900

to arrange a viewing on this
exceptional family home.



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Chris Davies

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Family fun day raises over £1,000 for the children of Ty Hafan

A FAMILY fun day, hosted by Dow Corning and MSS Catering, helped raise more than £1,000 for Ty Hafan.

The circus-themed event, attended by interior designer and television presenter, Anna Ryder Richardson, was open to children of Ty Hafan and their siblings, plus the families of Dow Corning workers.

Family activities ranged from circus and magic shows, to a falconry display and handling experience.

Occupational health team leader at Dow Corning, Johanne Stacey-Davies, was "thrilled" by the total raised on the day.

"I am extremely proud of our employees, who continue to give their full support to our flagship charity, Ty Hafan.

"You could see on the children's faces the fun



Television presenter Anna Ryder Richardson attended the fun day.

they were having, which made all the hectic planning in advance of this worthwhile.

"I would also like to say a personal thank you to Anna Ryder Richardson for popping down and sharing the day with us," Johanne added.

Frank Ady, from Ty Hafan, said: "Dow Corning has once again

shown their strong support for Ty Hafan. The family fun day was only possible this year due to their help. "It was wonderful to see so many Ty Hafan families join in the fun on the day.

"The event raised over £1,000 which is excellent and it will help ensure the hundreds of life-limited children, young people and their

families across Wales continue to receive the comfort, care and support they regularly need."

Dow Corning and their employees donated a total of £32,000 to Ty Hafan during 2010, a large portion of this being funding towards a new disabled-friendly playground at the hospice in Sully.

DEWCH I GANU - CYFLE I YMUNO Â CHÔR YR EISTEDDFOD

YR wythnos nesaf, bydd Côr

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg yn ail-gychwyn ar ôl yr haf, gyda chroeso mawr i aelodau hen a newydd, yng Nghapel y Tabernacl, Y Barri, gan gychwyn pob nos Fawrth o 20 Medi ymlaen am 19.00.

Un o brif weithgareddau cymdeithasol yr Eisteddfod yn unrhyw ardal yw creu Côr yr Eisteddfod, gyda chwyll i berfformio'n ffwf i gynhyrchu y Pafiliwn ar Faes yr Eisteddfod yn Llandow y flwyddyn nesaf.

Beth bynnag eich hoed, faint bynnag o brofiad sydd gennych, ac os ydych chi'n soprano, alto, tenor neu faswr, mae croeso cynnes i chi ymuno â'r côr ar gyfer Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg.

Beth gwell ar gyfer nosweithiau hir ac oer y gaeaf na chwyll i gyd-ganu mewn grŵp cyfeillgar tra'n paratoi ar gyfer yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol fis Awst nesaf?

Dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae nifer o berfformwyr adnabyddus wedi ymuno â'r côr ar lwyfan y Pafiliwn, gan gynnwys Rebecca Evans, Gwyn Hughes Jones, a'r bariton byd-enwog, Bryn Terfel, ac mae'r cyfle i berfformio gyda chanwyr mor brofiadol wedi ysgogi nifer o bobl i ymuno â'r côr bob tro y cynhelir yr Eisteddfod o fewn

taith gyfforddus i'w cartrefi.

Meddai Hywel Wyn Edwards, Trefnydd yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, "Mae dros gant a hanner eisoes wedi ymuno gyda Chôr yr Eisteddfod, a rydym yn annog unrhyw un sy'n byw ar draws y de ddwyrain a sy'n awyddus i ganu i ddod i'r ymarferion yn Y Barri.

Mae'n ffordd ardderchog i gymdeithasu ac i gefnogi'r Eisteddfod yn yr ardal. Rydym yn awyddus i sicrhau bod yr Eisteddfod yn 2012 yn wyl i'w chofio yma yn Mro Morgannwg.

Mae dros ddegain mlynedd wedi pasio ers cynnal yr Eisteddfod yn yr ardal, ac felly rydym yn gofyn arnoch i gefnogi'r côr, er mwyn ein galluogi i godi to'r Pafiliwn a dangos i'r byd bod gennym gantorian heb eu hail yn Mro Morgannwg."

Cynhelir Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg ar hen faes awyr Llandow o 4-11 Awst y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae croeso i unrhyw un droi i fyny i'r ymarferion. Am ragor o fanylion ffoniwch 0845 4090 300 / 0845 4090 400 neu ewch i'r wefan www.eisteddfod.org.uk.

CALL TO SONG - JOIN THE 2012 EISTEDDFOD CHOIR
NEXT week, rehearsals for the 2012 Vale of Glamorgan National Eisteddfod Choir resume after the summer break.

Members old and new are welcome to come to Tabernacl Chapel, Barry at 7pm on Tuesdays, from September 20 onwards.

One of the greatest social activities the Eisteddfod brings to any area is the creation of the Eisteddfod choir - with an opportunity to perform live in front of an audience of thousands in the Pavilion at a prestigious concert.

Whatever your age, however long you've been singing, and

whether you're a soprano, alto, tenor or bass, there's a warm welcome for you to join the choir for the 2012 Eisteddfod.

What better way to spend long and cold winter evenings than with a friendly group hitting those high notes in preparation for the Eisteddfod in August next year?

Over the past few years, the Eisteddfod choir has been joined on stage by a wide range of famous performers, including Rebecca Evans, Gwyn Hughes Jones, and Bryn Terfel.

The opportunity to perform with such well-known singers is a great incentive for many people to join the Eisteddfod choir every time the festival is held within a comfortable distance to their homes.

National Eisteddfod organiser, Hywel Wyn Edwards, said, "More

than 150 people have already joined the Eisteddfod choir, and we're encouraging anyone interested in singing, and who lives in south-east Wales, to join us on Tuesday evenings.

"It's a great way to socialise and to support the Eisteddfod locally. We're keen to make sure that we have an Eisteddfod to remember here in the Vale next year.

"It's more than 40 years since the festival was last held in the region, so please join us in supporting the choir, so we can raise the roof in the Pavilion in August - and show the world what great singers we have here!"

The Vale of Glamorgan National Eisteddfod will be held on land at the old airfield in Llandow from August 4-11 next year.

Eisteddfod preparations are bootiful!

AS part of the build-up to the National Eisteddfod in the Vale next year, another car boot sale is to be held at Barry Comprehensive School on Saturday September 17.

The event is being organised by the Barry National Eisteddfod fundraising committee, in advance of the visit of this prestigious event at Llandow in August 2012.

The car boot sale takes place at the Barry Comprehensive School, in Port Road West, from 10am-2pm on Saturday.

Vendors should arrive at 9am, in order to set up on a first-come, first-served basis.

The fee for vendors is £5 for cars and £8 for vans.

Cyfle i helpu'r Eisteddfod eto!

FEL rhan o baratoidau'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn y Fro y flwyddyn nesaf, cynhelir arwerthiant cist car arall yn Ysgol Gyfun y Barri ar ddydd Sadwrn Medig 17eg.

Trefnir Trefnir y digwyddiad gan Bwyllgor Apel y Barri ar gyfer yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol a fydd yn cael ei chynnal fis Awst y flwyddyn nesaf ym Mro Morgannwg.

Cynhelir yr arwerthiant cist car yn Ysgol Gyfun y Barri, Port Road West, y Barri, o 10yb-2yb ar ddydd Sadwrn Gorffennaf 30ain. Dylai'r gwerthwyr gyrraedd am 9yb er mwyn gosod eu mwyddau - y cyntaf i'r felin. Codir £5 ar gyfer ceir sy'n gwerthu a £8 ar gyfer faniau sy'n gwerthu.

Honey the barn owl is a hoot at the festival



Jane Hutt AM with Honey the Barn Owl, who was saved by Owls 4 U.

WITH the sun shining on Saturday for the Amelia Trust Farm Harvest Festival celebrations, Vale AM Jane Hutt joined the crowds, and Honey the barn owl, to enjoy the stalls, karate displays,

gardens and animals. Afterwards, she commented: "Amelia Trust Farm is so important to young people across south Wales, and the farm is a haven of peace, as well as opportunity for so many."

Turkish loco steams into local festival



Picture by MIKE WILCOCK

THIS Turkish class 8f 2-8-0 no 45160 locomotive ran at the Barry Tourist Railway during the Waterfront Festival.

The steam loco was the first tender locomotive to run across the Causeway to the Island since the BTR took over the running of this heritage line.

Originally built during World War Two, it was shipped to Turkey and became known as a 'Churchill 8f' after the

then Prime Minister.

It was moved back to the UK in 1989, restored to full working order and returned into steam last year at the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway.

It has now returned to continue its working life in the Cotswolds. Another Turkish 8f, 45166, which is now stored at Barry, was on display over the weekend to compare restored and unrestored examples of this heavy freight machine

WELSH FOLK

EWENNY Arts Festival presents an Evening with The Hennessys, on Thursday, September 22, at Ewenny Priory Church.

Tickets £10 and £7.50, available from Ewenny Pottery (01656 653020), Helen (01656 667047), Mari (01656 664105) or at www.ewennyfestival.co.uk

MARCCROSS TWMPATH

An autumn Twmpath and hog roast will be held in a marquee at The Horseshoe Inn, Marcross, on Friday, October 7, at 7.30pm, with music provided by Thingamajig.

Tickets are available by email from MarcrossChurch@llandow.com or telephone Carol on 01656 890404. Adults £15; children (under 12) £6 (under three admitted free). Proceeds in aid of Holy Trinity Church, Marcross.



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Story of the uprising in Egypt, as told by the dissidents...

VALE MAN'S NEW BOOK MAY BE FIRST OF A KIND

IT is barely nine months since world headlines were dominated by the 'Arab Spring' – the uprising in Egypt which led to the toppling of President Mubarak by 'people power'.

However, one Vale resident has been very busy in the intervening months, producing what could well be a new style of historical book – the story of the uprising told through the social media postings of Egyptian dissidents.

Denis Campbell, a journalist, formerly of Boston but now a fully-fledged UK citizen, fol-

lowed the events in Egypt from his study in Monkash, the home of his online magazine UK Progressive.

In a room with two TV screens and two computer monitors, he spent between 12 and 16 hours each day over that crucial period (January 25 to February 11) watching live TV coverage from Al Jazeera and BBC World News, and following the postings from Egyptians who were caught up in the events.

He used this information to keep followers of UK Progressive informed in Britain and America.

In fact, it was a two-

by PHILIP IRWIN

way street, because he was able to look at TV pictures and tell Egyptian dissidents in one part of Cairo what was happening in other parts of the city!

He had 4,000 followers at the start, but by the end that figure had passed 7,000.

When it was over, his wife Dorret suggested that there was a story to be told, and the result is *Egypt Unsh@ckled*, by Denis G Campbell, now available through Amazon (in paperback and as a Kindle download).

In the book, Denis tells the story chrono-

logically, using the tweets and postings of Egyptians to chart the uncannily quick fall of the Mubarak machine.

It is a big story too, telling how a group of technologically-savvy protestors kept the story on the front page of papers around the world – charting the repression of the authorities and broadcasting the bravery of the rebels.

He also records how governments in the west, particularly the US, were misreading the situation and backing the wrong horse in imagining that a solution could be arrived at that left Mubarak in place.

The resultant book is a powerful record of the bravery of the rebels. If you don't tweet, and if you treat the world of social media as a foreign country, don't let that put you off, because Denis' commentary keeps you aware of the chain of events, and it draws you into 14 momentous days.



ABOVE:
Denis Campbell with his new book.

So, how did a US journalist end up in the Vale? It started when he met his wife Dorret, a Dutch national, in America. They moved to Holland, and then eight years ago came to the Vale.

Denis runs the UK Progressive magazine from the Vale, and contributes to various radio and TV news programmes.

Dorret is a chartered accountant, and their three children go to school in the Vale. The two youngest go to St Bride's Primary and the

eldest has just started at Cowbridge Comprehensive.

The family has put down solid roots, and Denis has enquired about becoming a school governor at Cowbridge.

He recently became a UK citizen after he and his wife realised that, although she can live here because she comes from the EU, he had no legal right to stay here.

The fact that he has taken this step, is an indication that he sees the good aspects of life in the UK, perhaps

more than those of us who have always been here.

He said: "I can't find anything to criticise about the education system. We are delighted with the progress our children are making."

"In fact, when I went to the primary school to give a talk there, I was amazed by how much they knew. For instance, they were all aware of who Martin Luther King was, and they asked really good questions about the differences between the countries."

Last year, he followed the general election campaign that saw Alun Cairns elected as Vale MP, and he is a fan of our election system.

He said: "It is not perfect but it was refreshing to see an election fought without the candidates having to spend vast amounts on an advertising campaign."

"In the US, a close campaign for the senate, for instance, can lead to both candidates having to raise millions for TV campaigns attacking each other."

"I also approved of the way you count your votes. In America, there is such a rush to catch the 11pm news that they don't even count the postal votes."

"They only get included if it's a close call. In the UK, you can say that my vote was counted!"

Denis has even been hooked by cricket, and he raves about a smart phone app that keeps you up to date with test and one-day scores – complete with bowling and batting statistics!

Finally, anyone contemplating reading *Egypt Unsh@ckled* might be interested in where he stands on the political spectrum.

That is explained in his intro to the book:

'As a journalist, I lean left because what used to be a logical independent 'centre' has drifted further and further to the right – and the right has left the building altogether for a psychopathic, wildly intolerant fringe.'

I think he is referring to the 'Tea Party' in the US. He couldn't mean anyone here, could he?



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Penarth Computer Club – don't miss out on key information

HOW much to tip? Not cash, but information. The trouble with experts is that they fail to tell you something useful because they are so familiar with it that they assume everybody knows it, or perhaps they don't want to be thought of as 'show offs' or be thought irritating.

At Penarth Computer Club, we recognise this problem. We address it by giving a talk about just these little gems. The aim is to help beginners and improvers to get more done with less effort. It's called improving efficiency.

Over time, our list has got longer and now runs to quite a few pages. You can see it on our website at penarthcomputerclub.co.uk and going to Downloads and then click on 'Hints and Tips 2009'. (To be updated for 2011 next month.)

Just as I was feeling a teeny bit smug about all this, I read two separate tips in two publications. No surprise about that, BUT I was so familiar with the tips that I had failed to realise that they should be included in our list.

One points out that the task bar can be repositioned to either side of the screen. Then I realised that this fits within our talk on setting up a computer. It is more relevant these days with the use of wide-screen formats to get a little more desktop height.

In XP you simply drag and drop the taskbar. If it won't drag, you need to right click on it and un-tick 'Lock the Taskbar'. You can also position it at the top of your screen, but get no height benefit.

In Windows 7 you right-click the Taskbar and select Properties and go from there.

The other tip concerned web brows-

ing more efficiently. If you click on a link you will change the page. After several such clicks you will need to click the back arrow (maybe several times) to reopen an earlier page.

That is all a bit tedious, especially if you want to cross-refer between pages. If you initially right-click on the link you get an option menu, you can choose to open the links in new windows (or new tabs if your browser has tab browsing capability).

Your original page is now only a click away even if you have opened several different ones. Closing one window or tab will leave you with all the others still open.

Here's another tip. If you have several windows open on your desktop it can get a bit messy. Right-click the toolbar and select 'Cascade Windows'. All the open windows will be neatly stacked allowing you to see the window headers.

As you look at the right-click menus, explore the other options. They will range from a couple to quite a few. They are context sensitive, ie they will vary according to where they are. Ah! So many tips, so little time!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, September 27 when Steve will be showing how to make your computer look good and behave itself. Visitors welcome.

HOWARD DESMOND
(Chairman)

VALE MP's surgeries

VALE MP, Alun Cairns, will be holding a surgery for advice and assistance tomorrow, September 16, at the following locations: 1.30pm-3pm in Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major; and 4pm-5.30pm at the County Library, King Square, Barry.

Anyone in the Vale is welcome to attend, but it is advisable to telephone 01446 403814 to make an appointment.

Positive Image Photography Society opens the shutters!

MEMBERS of Barry's Positive Imaging Photographic Society (PIPS) are looking forward to an excellent series of speakers during its 2011/2012 season.

We began with the excellent Leigh Woolford, who took us on a personal journey following in the photographic footsteps of his father.

Leigh's passion is photographing cars and their drivers; however, shots of trains and boats and planes transported us through the evening together with some excellent landscape and urban shots for good measure.

Leigh's laybys in the Brecon Beacons are, we were told, some of the best locations for those special shots.

New members are

welcome at PIPS meetings at 7.30pm on alternative Thursday evenings at St Baruc's Church, Phyllis Street, Barry Island.

To find out more about our 2011/12 programme of speakers, photo shoots, competitions and Guy's photo-shop sessions, please telephone Bernard Brown on 01446 408483.

We next get together on this evening (September 15) at 7pm in Marco's Café on the seafront at Barry Island for a sunset/moonrise photoshoot. **AP**

Penarth and District Ramblers news

Where two rivers meet to form the 'mighty' Taf

RECENTLY, on a dry but overcast morning, 13 walkers joined Geraint and his collie, Patch, for a trip up to Penttyrch, situated on the western outskirts of Cardiff.

From there, they took a promoted route towards Creigiau, which made for easy walking, as there are plenty of way markers and wide kissing gates, instead of stiles.

Entering open fields, they walked on to woodland (which contained a hair-raising BMX cycle track) and went past a small lake before arriving at Creigiau, originally linked to Cardiff and Barry by means of the railway, which was closed back in the 1960s

as part of the Beeching cuts.

Walking along the disused railway track, their thoughts turned to climbing Garth Hill which, standing at 307 metres, rather dominates the skyline.

Beginning the steep climb up the south western flank of The Garth, as it is known locally, they passed through conifer woods before rejoining open ground and making the final push to reach the top.

The trig point is situated on one of the five tumuli, the largest in fact, which are burial mounds of various sizes on the ridge and the top, commands 360-degree views stretching from the Brecon Beacons in the

North to the Bristol Channel and across the sprawling city of Cardiff.

After enjoying the views, they continued along the ridge to the steep drop over a cliff edge that towers above the Taff Gorge.

The River Taff begins its life as two rivers, the Taff Fechan that rises south of Pen y Fan and through the Nuadd, Pentwyn and Pencelli reservoirs and the Taff Fawr that rises below Corn Du and flows through the Beacons, Cantref and Llynw-on reservoirs. Both rivers converge to the sea at Cardiff Bay.

They took an easier route which led gradually downhill through gorse and ferns to reach fields below, from where they made their return to Penttyrch.

On September 17, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a seven-mile moderate walk at Cwm Oergwm near Llanfrynach (the leader has specified you pack two plastic bags, because a difficult stream has to be crossed); contact Clive on 02920 654156.

On September 18, meet at 10am at Cogan for a five-mile easy walk along the banks of the River Taff; contact Pam on 02920 219102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Stormy weather means an early end to Balmoral trips

WAVERLEY Excursions Ltd has announced that sailings aboard Balmoral between September 13-19 will not now take place, as weather conditions that had prevented sailing for seven days, were forecast to continue for the next five at least.

"We are unable to recover the costs of these 12 days from the remaining four days sailings and have, therefore, taken the decision to stop sailing now," a spokesperson said.

"Ticket holders have the option to use your ticket on any of Waverley's sailings this year on the South Coast

and Thames, or tickets can be returned to Waverley Excursions Ltd, 36 Lancefield Quay, Glasgow, G3 8HA, for a full refund.

"Please note that if passengers have booked with Groupon vouchers, we are happy to issue a credit note for a sailing in 2012. Otherwise please contact Groupon to obtain a refund of your voucher.

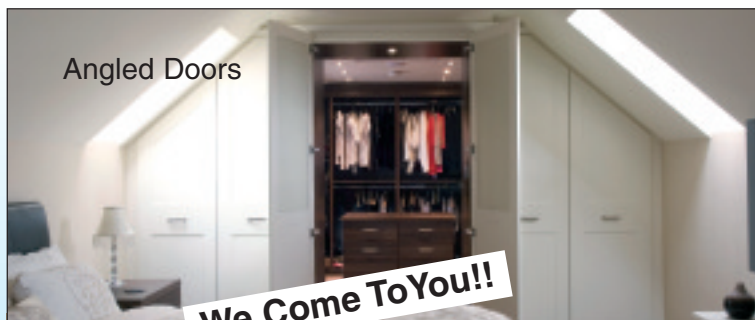
"Once again, we apologise for any disappointment. We hope that you understand that we operate as a charity, and have a duty of care to ensure that we safeguard funds," the spokesperson added.

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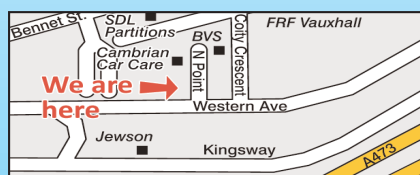
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ing their companion behind. These would adapt to a quiet, loving home environment.

Currently, we have an abundance of cats who are desperately in need of a new family, or people to care for them.

For an appointment or further information, please telephone Maesteg Animal Welfare Society on 01656 721496, or 01656 667463. Please leave a message on our answerphone, if we are not available.

If you have any donations, bric-a-brac or any unwanted items, call our shop, 01656 738977 or 01656 721496.

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STEPPING OUT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

LEFT:

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-Personnel from No 4 SFTT who will be undertaking the walk.

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AIR FORCE PERSONNEL WALK FOR CHARITY...

ON Sunday, September 18, RAF personnel from No 4 School of Technical Training, MoD St Athan, will be stepping out to raise funds for the Wales Alzheimer's Society.

The 31 airmen and women taking part are currently at St Athan, training for ground support roles – and will be supporting LTS in an attempt to raise a massive £5,000, as they walk from their Pencoed branch to the LTS branch in James Street, Cardiff Bay.

Whilst most people will be walking only part of the 19 miles journey, the trainees have undertaken the challenge of walking the whole distance.

They will be setting off at 6.30am, to ensure that they are on track to meet the main group of walkers – who will be starting from the Taff Trail at Forest Farm, Coryton.

LTS Director, Glynis Lloyd, said: "We are so grateful to the RAF for helping us raise funds for a charity that all of us could have need of."

"Indeed, many people will already know friends and relations whose lives have been touched by Alzheimer's; £5,000 is a huge amount of sponsorship to raise and the people of Pencoed have been very generous already – especially the local shopkeepers, who have willingly donated items to be raffled as part of our attempt to meet our target."

Anyone wishing to show support for Wales Alzheimer's Society can go along to see the teams set off from the LTS Office, Penybont Road, Pencoed.

Alternatively, join the walk to boost funds, or make donations by contacting: Jayne Penhaluric (01656 861010).

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A SURVEY by Cats Protection showed that cats play a major role in helping people over 55 to act and feel younger and healthier.

Eighty per cent of owners surveyed agreed that cats add quality to life. Cats can reduce the feeling of loneliness, aid relaxation and help reduce stress.

Cats are the UK's most popular pet and with findings like this, it's easy to see why.

We would encourage older people to consider homing a cat.

If you would like to offer a cat a home, please ring Bridgend Adoption Centre on 01656 724396.

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To see how we can help you, book a free assessment today on 01446 488489, or email: cowbridge-chiropractic@hotmail.co.uk.

Paralympian is released from hospital

PORHCRAWL'S gold-winning paralympian cyclist, Simon Richardson, has been released from hospital after three weeks of intensive treatment following a road traffic collision.

The incident took place on August 17 on the A48. Mr Richardson was out on a training ride when he was knocked off his bike at Crack Hill, which is between Bridgend and Cowbridge.

He was taken by air ambulance to the University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff.

He suffered a fracture of the spine, a double break to the pelvis and a broken breastbone.

Mr Richardson is not a stranger to conquering adversity – in 2001, he was knocked off his bike, and went on to become a paralympic champion.

Mr Richardson's dream had been to compete in the London Paralympics next year.

On the day of the incident, a man from Cowbridge, aged 59, was arrested and later given police bail until October 13.



ABOVE: Paralympic champion Simon Richardson of Porthcawl. (Photographed in 2008 by Keith E Morgan).

TEST CENTRE APPLICATION

A planning application has been made to the Vale Council by the Driving Standards Agency "for the purpose of a test centre with allocated parking" in Barry.

The application, which will delight Vale driving instructors and learners, is for a unit in the Innovation Quarter along Hood Road.

Barry's original test centre was on Dock View Road and closed in March 2010, despite a campaign by driving instructors and the Vale's AM, Jane Hutt, who wanted to keep it open.

Since then, instructors and learners have been forced to drive over to Cardiff from the Vale for tests, and some practice sessions.

The news was welcomed by Jane Hutt AM, who commented: "I am delighted to see the planning application for a Barry Driving Test Centre in the Waterfront area."

"This will be a real boost for Barry, marking confidence in the largest town in Wales."

"Most of all, this will be welcome news for learners in all age groups, their driving instructors, and driving schools."

Couple cycle across Wales to raise £2,500 for charity

A COUPLE who successfully completed a gruelling bike ride across Wales, raised £2,500 for the Guide Dog for the Blind Association.

Linda Jenkins, an NDORS supervisor at Barry-based Professional Driver Services (PDS) and husband Peter, who works for the British Transport Police, cycled from Caernarfon to PDS's offices in Barry over four days.

As well as the cycle ride, Linda and Peter also ran a fundraising night at the Park Hotel in Barry, where a raffle and live entertainment raised £300 towards the impressive total of £2,500.

Linda commented: "Peter and I are thrilled to have raised such a huge amount of money."

After PDS announced Guide Dog for the Blind as its official charity partner, I really wanted to contribute to help towards raising the remaining funds.

"Although the challenge was extremely demanding, we really enjoyed the experience."

"We received a huge



"We did it!" – Linda and Peter.

amount of support from friends and family and from both our employers, PDS and British Transport Police. Peter and I are especially grateful to PDS who provided us with t-shirts for the cycle. I'm glad that our hard efforts have helped towards PDS's fundraising goal."

PDS recently announced Guide Dog for the Blind Association as their official charity partner for 2011.

The cost of training a guide dog in its first two years is £10,000 and PDS have already donated half that money to the worthwhile cause.

The charity cycle ride is part of the company's efforts to raise the remaining £5,000.

Director at PDS, Kath Bevan, said: "We are very proud of Linda and Peter for completing such a difficult challenge."

"Guide Dog for the Blind is a fantastic organisation, which is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year, and it is great that Linda and Peter have helped towards the £10,000."

"Linda and Peter's £2,500 has made a great contribution and we look forward to continuing to fundraise for the remaining £2,500."

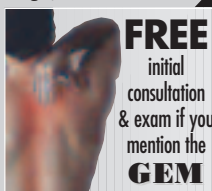
Donations can still be sent to Linda at the PDS offices at 1 St Mary's Avenue, Barry, or online at justgiving.com/linda-jenkins up until September 30.

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Club's £2,000 donation for Karen's Cause...



David Bannister, Karen Holroyd, Ceri Palmer and Neil Tipples.

St Andrews Major Golf Club recently hosted the David Bannister Memorial Day, an annual event run by the club for the benefit of local charities.

This year, it was decided to donate £1,000 of the money raised to Karen's Cause, with the remainder going to Ty Hafan.

An enjoyable day's golf saw Martin Rees winning the men's competition, with Alan Bannister second and Jeff Westcott in third place.

The ladies competition was won by Karen Bryan, with Lindsey Lock second and Rachel Hooper third.

The day's golf was followed by an evening meal and entertainment which helped to raise more than £2,000 for local charities. It was decided to donate

£1,000 to Karen's Cause, when the event's organiser, Alan Bannister, read of Karen's plight in the local press.

Karen, who lives in Barry with her 10-year-old son and partner, has been diagnosed with cervical cancer and has already undergone several courses of chemotherapy.

She is trying to raise £22,000 to pay for cyberknife robotic radiosurgery, which is a non-invasive alternative to surgery for the treatment of tumours.

Cyberknife delivers beams of high dose radiation with extreme accuracy, as opposed to normal radiotherapy treatment, which Karen has previously had, which would damage her internal organs.

To find out more about Karen's Cause, or to make a donation, contact Karen on 07703 778419 or visit the website www.karenscause.co.uk

'Cyres Sound' hits airwaves!

ST CYRES School is about to launch its very own radio station, called 'Cyres Sound', at 7am on Monday, September 19.

The internet radio station will broadcast 24 hours a day, with live shows throughout the school day and music continuing after school hours.

A school spokesman said: "There will be a breakfast show, lunchtime shows and hometime shows, with pre-recorded shows being played in the evenings."

"Not only will the radio station act as a form of entertainment, but it will also be a great way for all departments to get involved by incorporating it into their lessons; and also by producing educational programmes which students can listen

to at home.

"School concerts, interviews with pupils, interviews with teachers and school news, are also planned to be broadcast, acting as a great form of communication for the community."

The idea came from music teacher Richard Hopkin, who has always had a passion for radio.

Before beginning his teaching career in St Cyres two years ago, he was the breakfast show producer for Real Radio Wales.

Mr Hopkin said: "It is such a pleasure to be able to pass on my knowledge and experience. The response has been overwhelming – the pupils have shown real enthusiasm and commitment."

"I can't wait to hear their hard work pay off." You will be able to listen to Cyres Sound on the St Cyres School website www.stcyres.org.

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Why leave out Barry from festival venues?

WHAT an interesting programme the Vale of Glamorgan Festival of Music offered the public last week.

However, as a Barry resident and chair of Canolfan Porthceri Centre, I observe that two out of the five concerts were in Cardiff, and none in Barry.

There were three concerts held around the Vale – in Ewenny, Penarth and Ffnon Castle – and I can understand completely why those venues were chosen.

But isn't it such a pity that there appears to have been no suitable venue available for two other concerts, one held in the new Dora Stoutzker Hall in the Royal Welsh Academy of Music and Drama, and the other in the Hoddinott Hall in the

Wales Millennium Centre? Both of these venues have seating capacities of 250-350, just the size which Canolfan Porthceri Centre believes the town needs.

In future years of the festival, it is our hope that the organisers can find suitable venues for all its concerts – without going outside the Vale.

The group continues to work towards establishing a venue for the arts, culture and the Welsh language in Barry, and has organised a series of talks. The first will be held on September 20 at 7.30pm in St Andrews Golf Club.

Tickets are available on the night at the golf club, or telephone 07982 319456 for more details. Buy one ticket for £5, or three flexi-tickets for £12.

Dorothy Connell, Canolfan Porthceri Centre,
www.porthceri.co.uk

RAFA THANK YOU

BARRY branch of RAFA recently held a Wings Appeal Week at Morrisons Supermarket, Barry.

We would like to thank the management and staff for allowing us to use the foyer for our appeal.

A big thank you also to all the shoppers at Morrisons for your generosity and donations – it was a delight to meet you all – especially the veterans of all the Forces.

We must not forget the help we received from the Air Cadets 372 Squadron, Barry, and I am sure the shoppers at Morrisons appreciated the cadets' bag-packing.

D B Shankland, Barry Branch, Royal Air Forces Association.

GEM LETTERS EXTRA

NO INSIDE CASH MACHINE...

THE 'FRIENDLY' BANK, OR THE 'NAIVE' BANK?

IN its corporate advertising, HSBC insists on telling us that it is the world's "friendly" bank, though judged by recent events in Cowbridge it falls some way short.

Having just spent countless thousands on a refurbishment – admirably to improve access for the infirm and disabled – they've spoilt it all by removing the cash dispensing machine from inside the bank and replacing it with another into which customers can only pay

in cash or cheques, but not take money out. It's presumably banking's way of ensuring we don't spend too much!

Instead, they expect customers to stand outside, queueing in all kinds of wind and weather to collect cash from an inadequate hole-in-the-wall dispenser which, in bright sunlight, carries legends that are barely legible.

Recently, I found that the dispenser had broken down, only to be told by the cashier: 'That's okay, you can use your card at Barclays or NatWest without charge.' But OK for whom?

When I pointed out to another member of staff that there had been two muggings in Cowbridge recently, and that in the interests of security, it was surely safer to retain a cash dispenser inside the bank, he promised to look into it.

That was six weeks

ago, but nothing has yet emerged. Does our 'friendly' bank think we're all so chummy in Cowbridge that a mugging won't happen again?

If they do, they are more naive than they're friendly.

Mike Meredith, Cowbridge

'Barrians must stand firm'

HAVE your readers heard about HOPE in the Vale? It is a group of concerned local

people trying to ensure that our town, Barry, isn't turned into a giant housing estate.

We do want our town to have a balance of houses, jobs, leisure amenities and shops that local people want.

However, we hope that our elected councillors see that building houses on green field sites should not be encouraged.

We, as Barrians, need to stand firm and join together to tell the Vale Council that we only want houses considered for brown field sites.

The precious green field sites in and around Barry need to be kept

Cemetery Approach – TOWN COUNCIL RESPONDS

I REFER to the letter "Time to Sort Out Eyesore at Cemetery Approach" that appeared in the letters page of The GEM on September 8.

I would like to respond, on behalf of Barry Town Council, to Mr N H Bailey. I would like to advise Mr Bailey that the two parcels of land either

side of Cemetery Approach are in the current ownership of the Vale Council, and not Barry Town Council, as Mr Bailey assumed.

Barry Town Council are currently in correspondence with the Vale Council to purchase the old nursery and greenhouse site.

They are currently looking into how best to develop the nursery site for the public, while keeping a dignified approach route to the cemetery, should the Vale Council accede to our request.

The town council has been consulting with the community, including FocusBARRY Supporters.

Barry town councillors are aware of local concerns for the area, and when the business plan for this area is completed, these plans will be submitted to the Vale Council.

I hope that this clarification on the facts of the ownership of the site in question will help Mr Bailey redirect his concerns to the appropriate council.

Cliff Lewis, Town Clerk
(On behalf of Barry Town Council).

safe.

We all know that once they are gone, they are lost forever.

What can you do? Write about your concerns to the local newspaper, tell your councillors how you feel, sign the petition that is circulating locally, get in touch with your ideas.

Let's all help save our town, a place that deserves better than being overrun with more concrete.

Once an industrial hub and then a tourist resort, Barry has been gradually stripped of its identity. We need to act now to protect everything we have left.

Mrs. Lesley Cox

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE AND WHEN IN YOUR AREA

Country market

ON Friday, September 16 at 10am, Cowbridge Country Market will be holding a special autumn fruit event in the Lesser Hall.

With the glut of apples, pears and damsons around this year, baked goods and a variety of preserves will be on sale, together with flowers, plants, vegeta-

bles and craft items.

Floral talk

BARRY Floral Society meets at St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry, on September 20 at 2.15pm, when Mrs Kathy Greene of Pencoeed will give a demonstration – *Betwixt Two Bridges*.

New members are always made welcome.

Reunion

COWBRIDGE

Grammar School Old Boys Association are holding a reunion in the Cowbridge Athletic Club on Friday, September 23, 7pm for 7.30pm.

Further information and tickets (£8) are available from Neil Workmen (secretary) on 07792 256334.

Tax advice

TAX help for older people will hold an advice surgery at the Age Concern offices, Holton Road, Barry, on Monday, September 26 between 9.30am and 12 noon.

Street surgery

VALE Labour councillors for Gibbonsdown Ward, Barry, Rob Curtis and Margaret Wilkinson, will hold a street surgery in the Port Road East, Morningside Walk and Cae Leon area on Saturday, September 17 from 11am-12 noon.

Car boot, art fayre

ST BRIDES MAJOR is hosting a car boot sale, produce market, coffee and cakes, as well as an art fayre, on Saturday, September 17, at 10am, in Davies' field (next to church hall and vicarage) on Southerndown Road.

Open gardens

TWO Penarth gardens, will be open on September 17, 11am-5pm; entry £3.

Honeysuckle Cottage

Charity dinner

BRIDGEND County Civic charity appeals standing committee and the Mayor of the borough, Coun Christopher Michaelides, will hold a charity banquet at 7pm in the Golden Well Oriental Restaurant, Brocastle, Bridgend on September 25.

Master of Ceremonies, JJ Williams, Welsh rugby international and British Lion. Special guest, Mr Emyr Lewis, ex-Llanelli and Cardiff RFC and Wales international. Tickets £25, tables of 10/8/6 available, black tie.

The event will support local charities – Glaze, Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Bridgend County Stroke Groups and Bridgend County Riding for the Disabled.

For further information, contact M Major (01656 664105) or Doug John (01656 861594).

is a tranquil, sunny cottage style garden full of seasonal colour and the scent of honeysuckle, roses and sweet peas.

Witsend comprises three awkwardly-shaped areas each planted individually, including a cottage style area with an alpine planted gravel path, a vegetable plot with fruit and a sheltered rear garden with a frog pond. There is also an art exhibition at Witsend.

Physic Garden

YOU may feel that you are very familiar with the Physic Garden in Cowbridge but do you really know the history of the site and the garden, the layout of the beds, the properties of the plants, or the workings of the garden?

Four very experienced volunteers will be on hand on Saturday, September 17 to provide a garden tour at 2.30pm. There will give different insights into the garden and will be able to answer questions. Cards

and plants will also be on sale. **MH**

Further details can be found at www.opendoorsdays.org.uk

Rhws car boot

RHWS Primary School is holding a car boot sale in the school playground on Saturday, September 24.

Sellers to arrive at 1pm to set up and buyers welcome from 2pm; £5 per car.

Council open day

BARRY Town Council will be holding an open day in the Merthyr Dyfan Chapel, in the grounds of Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery on Saturday, September 24 from 10am-3pm.

The records of burials in the Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery will be available for inspection by members of the public, with the assistance of council staff.

There will also be staff available to assist with the location of graves.

Information on the history of the chapel and cemetery will be available from local councillors.

Art festival

There will be a week-end of entertainment later this month at the Peterston-super-Ely Arts Festival.

To get things going, the Peterston festival is sponsoring the storyteller Kat Weatherill to tell tall tales and wonders to the children of Peterston Primary School.

"On Friday, September 23, there will be a jazz night with the highly acclaimed singer/pianist Liane Carroll."

"On Saturday, September 24, there will be a theatre supper evening with David Benson in *To Be Frank*, his take on the master of comedy, Frankie Howard."

Programmes and tickets for these two events are available at the Peterston-super-Ely village shop.

Cycle ride raises £2,000 for Ty Hafan



PICTURED: Darren Hill, Paul Glover and Chris Bridgeman.

CONSTRUCTION

lecturers from Cardiff and Vale College have raised more than £2,000 for Ty Hafan – by cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats during the summer holidays.

Chris Bridgeman, Paul Glover and Darren Hill made the 940-mile journey with colleague Anthony Parry acting as a support driver.

"We would like to thank all the staff who have already contributed to our challenge, and let anyone wishing to make a donation know that we will be meeting with Ty Hafan staff at the end of the month to hand

over the money raised," Chris Bridgeman said. "So far we have raised more than £2,200 and are aiming to reach the £3,000 mark."

Bowls taster

SULLY Indoor Bowls Arena, an eight-rink international bowls venue, is offering a free taster session on September 24 from 10am-2pm.

Qualified coaches will be on hand to show people the ropes and the facilities.

All ages above nine years old are welcome.

LLANTWIT MAJOR CRAFT & GIFT FAIRS

New stalls to see...
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Methodists celebrate

ALONG with other churches in the Vale, Methodists will be celebrating harvest at Saint David's, on the Colcot, with an all-age harvest service, this Sunday (September 18), at 9.45am-10.45am.

Crossway Methodist

Church in the centre of Barry (Court Road) will also have an all-age harvest service, also this Sunday at 11am-12 noon. Refreshments will be available before the service in the hall.

Both town churches will be supporting the Vale Foodbank, and invite people to contribute tinned food/dried food for this local charity.

On Sunday, September 25, a number of local Methodist churches will be joining in for the first time with the Back To Church Sunday initiative, including Saint David's, Crossway and Dinas Powys.

The invitation is also to anyone who has perhaps never been to church.

Fairtrade tea and coffee will be available after these services.

For more information, contact the ministers Rev Peter and Deacon Samantha Taylor, on 01446 406262.

National Trust group's meeting

THE next meeting of The Vale of Glamorgan Association of National Trust Members will be held on Wednesday, September 21 at 7.30pm at the United Free Church in Cowbridge.

The speaker is Mr Jeff Robinson, whose subject is 'Family History'.

For further information, contact the membership secretary on 01443 223230.

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Another Great Glamorgan GEM reader competition in conjunction with Creative Stitches & Hobbyscrafts

Making waves at Creative Stitches & Hobbyscrafts in Cardiff!

We have teamed up with the organisers of Creative Stitches & Hobbyscrafts to offer ten lucky readers a chance to win a pair of tickets to the show at Cardiff Motorpoint Arena from 29th September - 1st October. The show will be making waves with the 'Above and Below the Waves' display, which features an enormous 9x6 metre 3D walk-through tunnel that must be seen to be believed. The stunning costumes from the hit TV series, Downton Abbey, will be on display as well as a series of free Quick & Easy workshops, talks and more than 120 exhibitors offering you advice and the latest products.

For more information visit: www.ichf.co.uk

To win a ticket all you need to do is answer the following question:

Costumes will be on display from which hit TV series?

Please send your answer, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Glamorgan Gem Ltd., 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL.

The closing date for entries is Friday 22nd September 2011.

Answer:
Name:
Address:
Post Code:
Telephone Number:
Terms & Conditions: 1. No cash alternative; 2. Promoter's decision is final. Promoter is Creative Stitches & Hobbyscrafts.

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'Uninspiring and lazy'

Saldana smokes, but action movie is firing blanks

ONE of the prime European directors to have made a name for himself in Hollywood, Luc Besson, has taken something of a back seat in recent years.

Having brought a differing sensibility to the big screen with the likes of *Leon* and *The Fifth Element*, the director chose to write and produce rather than sit in the director's chair.

The results have been hit and miss – for every *Transporter* (a guilty pleasure of an action movie) there has been an *Unleashed* – but Besson's latest cinematic baby now makes the big screen in *Colombiana*.

Zoe Saldana stars as Cataleya, a woman who has grown up in the shadow of her parents' murder at the hands of a cartel boss (Beto Benites).

Now a professional

killer, handled by her uncle (Cliff Curtis) Cataleya seeks revenge for her parents by going after those responsible, and not stopping until she has achieved her aim...

With the exception of Angelina Jolie, it appears that when it comes to guns, bullets and high octave action it is very much a case of jobs for the boys.

How refreshing then to see Zoe Saldana step up to the action heroine plate with *Colombiana*, a film that really should cement her reputation as an actress of renown, following up her superb turns in the *Star Trek* reboot and her work on *Avatar*.

Sad to report then that it's something Saldana fails to grab with both hands, and though she hardly disgraces herself, she isn't helped by a weak film that doesn't really know what it is or what to do with itself.

Much like most of Besson's script work

(here written with uncle (Cliff Curtis) there is very much a throw it against the wall and see if it sticks mentality, coupled with the most predictable story elements of the genre.

It makes for a pretty uninspiring narrative and one that oozes predictability from every pore, from the scrapes the various characters find themselves in, to the actual characters themselves, two-dimensional stereotypes that feel like poor copies from superior films.

Indeed, it appears that Besson and Kamen decided that, rather than cook up something new or riff on an existing idea, they'd just lift wholesale from the numerous films like this one.

For a man who dreamt up the likes of *The Fifth Element*, this is very much the epitome of laziness, with parts of the film playing on his earlier work of *Nikita*. You can almost imagine Besson sipping a glass of vintage whisky, while telling Kamen to simply pick the best bits of what he's done before and turn them into this film.

It does a disservice to a decent cast, but particularly Zoe Saldana, whose skillful portrayals in supporting roles have given her the chance to make the step up to leading roles.

While she shows not only a deftness for action and an ability to anchor a lead role, she is let down by a script that makes her character dead but dull – and also so painfully unaware of the consequences of her actions that she is perhaps even a little unlikeable, something the actress struggles to remedy.

While Cliff Curtis does a decent stab as the uncle who takes her under his wing and helps

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

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satisfy her desire to kill (though drastically short of both depth and screen time), Lennie James' FBI agent is perfunctory at best, while Michael Vartan, as the love interest unaware of Cataleya's real job, manages to make a plank of wood look like Richard Burton in a tremendous non-performance.

While he may well be a favourite of Besson, director Olivier Megaton has yet to convince, with this film going the same way as his ill-fated *Transporter* threequel – the film gritty and dripping with action, just with nothing particularly innovative or different. The film's look, much like the script, feels like a facsimile of other movies.

Given the well worn subject matter, you would have expected Luc Besson to offer something a little different; however *Colombiana* is merely a reheated mix of his own, and others' work and ends up being a film that is hard to like and even harder to remember.

VERDICT: A mish-mash of Luc Besson's previous works, with more than a nod to the violent action pictures of recent times, *Colombiana* is a poor film that fails to thrill. Sledgehammer subtlety, weak characters and a predictable feel all add up to a film that sinks like a stone. *Poor.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Taken* (2008), *Leon* (1994), *Nikita* (1990).

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D687.

● £2,000: 248503.
● The rollover, which now stands at £5,000, was won by 248503.
● £10: 8 1 8 9 6 7
725551, 339585, 223376, 334370, 852238, 605615, 508593, 407937, 463688, 328293, 720101, 720484, 958494, 109854, 112002, 893121, 288283, 759691, 847174.

● £5: 436560, 523762, 703745, 342053, 295595, 236452, 217195, 417800, 810741, 153663, 393595, 845997,

221419, 549863, 662688, 486508, 500930, 635570, 494576, 480874, 294716, 304409, 485255, 826216, 299387, 667823, 559272, 117244, 495123, 796901, 832283, 147008, 100192, 761956, 810545, 700071, 654581, 556687, 401502, 728006, 499499, 438380, 477663, 774523, 404010, 107922, 241419, 880521, 724803, 221102, 340324, 864730, 442203, 764593, 288488, 934056, 297590, 161013, 339395, 673780.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information telephone 02920 672062.

Vale of Glamorgan Festival of Music will move to spring

AS this year's Vale of Glamorgan Festival approaches its mid-way point, organisers have announced that from 2012, it will move to a new spring position in the musical calendar, with the dates adjusted annually to follow the Easter holiday.

Coinciding with the date change, are proposals to extend the content and reach of the festival, made possible by a significant uplift in funding for the event.

The 2012 festival will expand to an 11-day celebration at the beginning of May, with concerts taking place at locations in and around the Vale. In addition, the Festival is looking forward to increasing opportunities for linking up and working with national institutions outside the Vale.

"This is an exciting new chapter in our history," commented the festival's founder and artistic director, John Metcalf.

"We have long wanted to develop projects with partners in both the arts and higher education sector. The move to spring dates opens up a host of opportunities for us to forge closer collaborations with a range of organisations".



Founder and artistic director, John Metcalf

One element of the festival that will remain constant is its commitment to celebrating the work of living composers. That will be strengthened by plans to develop a major commissioning programme supported by Arts Council of Wales (ACW), international and national partners and a new 'Commissioning Circle' of individual givers.

A key element of the festival's artistic policy and its profile internationally has been the on-going

investment in its pioneering work by ACW and the Vale Council.

"This is a remarkable vote of confidence," says Metcalf. "We are all aware of the financial pressures on public funders and local authorities, so we look on this as a ringing endorsement of our work and its success in both serving the communities of the Vale and in bringing national and international visitors to the area".

This support has provided an all-important springboard for developing international partnerships. The festival is on course to secure upwards of £50,000 from international sources for 2012 and is committed to retaining this level of funding for 2013 and 2014.

Financial backing from Denmark and the Confucius Institute, based at Trinity St David's University will contribute to visits from Danish and Chinese artists next year, while the support of the Chicago-based organisation, Soli Deo Gloria, will secure a series of choral commissions.

Metcalf concludes: "At a time of severe cutbacks in public funding, this inward investment in the cultural life of Wales is even more valuable".

The programme for the 2012 Festival will be announced early next year.



What makes your local pub great?

Tell us, and your local could win a fantastic prize!

It has been well publicised that several pubs are closing in Wales every week - happily that is not the case in the Vale; in fact, many establishments are reporting record business levels.

To celebrate some of the excellent family-owned, or run Vale pubs, The GEM is looking for regular customers to vote for their favourite in our new 'Prize Pub' competition feature.

Prize...

A 12 month advertising campaign in The GEM and on-line, worth more than £5,000.

The competition will run during September and the winner will be announced in October.

Criteria to consider

Scores on the doors (Vale hygiene awards)
Food (Home cooked/organic produce)
Drinks (Alcohol & quality coffees & teas)
Disability access
Child activities/entertainment/meals
Friendliness of staff/welcome
Garden/outdoor appearances/flower baskets etc
Innovation & Diversity - new ideas, i.e. offering a take-away service
Standards of toilets and general cleanliness
Parking/cab service (will they call one for you?)
Music/Guest entertainers
Interiors/Christmas decorations
Community involvement and charity support
Green credentials, eg: commitment to recycling of food waste, rain water for watering plants, etc.

What to do next...

Enter by email or post – closing date is Friday, 30th September, 2011. You must supply your name, address and land-line telephone number. Tell us, in no more than 100 words, why you believe your local is the best. State the name of the landlord/landlady, pub name and location, and how often you visit.

Send your entries, marked 'Prize Pub' to: **The GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL** or email: **gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk**

Terms & Conditions

The five pubs that receive the most entries will be visited by a mystery diner/judge, whereupon the winner will be decided. The winner will be announced in The GEM in October. No correspondence concerning the decision will be entered into. The judge's decision is final.

Pub quiz test on all things Welsh!



ABOVE: Piers and Emma at the Pelican.

LAST week, Piers Bramhall and Emma Foley, the unsuspecting couple who were chosen to be the new faces of the next Visit Wales campaign, had their knowledge of all things Welsh tested by the Chris Moyles Show producer, Aled Jones, in a pub quiz held especially for them in the Vale.

The resident Radio One personality surprised Piers and his girlfriend Emma as he took to the stage to be the quizmaster at The Pelican Pub.

Having already spent a few days experiencing some of the finest things Wales has to offer, the duo fared very well – Emma even managed to beat boyfriend Piers with her team coming first!

The quiz followed the welcome by rugby star Gareth Thomas, who greeted the couple at the Blue Anchor Inn in Aberthaw.

Emma put Piers forward for the Visit Wales campaign after wanting to spend her holidays

doing something other than just sunbathing. Emma jumped at the chance to enter her other half to win the experience of a lifetime (and a decent getaway in return!)

The purpose of the trip is to show Piers and Emma the delights Wales has to offer and demonstrate that the vibrant cities, beautiful scenery and a friendliness to rival no other means Wales is the place to holiday.

Piers Bramhall commented: "I couldn't believe it when Aled turned up!"

"I listen to him all the time, so it was an absolute pleasure to meet him in person.

"Hope he thought my knowledge of Wales was up to scratch!"

Emma Foley said: "I had no idea that tonight would have Aled in store for us.

"I'm having such a great time here – I think Piers is finally realising you don't just need sunshine to have a brilliant holiday!"



Christmas Party Guide



Oriental Diner

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When you book 4 adults' evening buffet meals, **one adult will eat FREE!**
CONDITIONS APPLY

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House wine only **£9.90 a bottle**
Tsing Tao & Tiger Beer
Buy 2, get 1 free

Weds & Thurs

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Selection of grilled marinated meats - part of the buffet at no extra cost!

Eat as much as you like!

Lunchtime Buffet

Tues-Fri 2 noon-3pm
(Last order 2.15 pm)
Adult £6.50; Child £3.90
(under 140cms) Tues-Sun

Evening Buffet

5.30pm 'til late
Adult £11.50; Child £6.50
Mon-Sun (Fri & Sat additional £1 per person.

Please call for details to book your private parties in our special function room!

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Telephone 01446 748811
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DON'T PUT IT OFF... Book that Christmas party without delay!

It is only when Christmas is almost upon us that most people begin to think of ways to celebrate it with meals out with relatives, friends and work colleagues.

The trouble is, by the time Christmas is that close, it is probably too late to get booked into any catering establishment - and the larger the group of people involved, the more impossible it is.

The fact is, booking for any Christmas related outing should be done when Christmas itself is but a dim promise on the horizon of consciousness.

So even though summer is still lingering and autumn just here, if you want to do anything at all to celebrate the festive season, now is the time to organise it.

In short, book early to avoid disappointment!

So what might you wish to do? Well a celebratory lunch with work colleagues might be nice.

Most pubs, hotels and restaurants will have special menus for just such a party. They may also have sample menus for you to take away so each member of the group can choose in advance - essential for large groups of diners.

Be advised though, get each person accepting a place to give you a small deposit - a tenner say, just in case they decide at the last minute, not to come.

An evening celebration is very popular these days and again, most caterers will have special menus and entertainment laid out too.

The best venues get booked up quickly, however, so don't delay with your booking arrangements.

Pre-Christmas Sunday lunches are a great way to get the family together. Again if you have a big party to book for, get that booking in early.

If someone is on a special diet, be sure to

inform the caterer in advance so they are prepared. And if a baby chair or child seat is required make sure you book it in advance.

It may also be necessary to choose the wine in advance if you want it well cooled, unless the establishment keeps their wines in cool cabinets.

If you are planning a real party, you could consider hiring a hall or functions room in a catering or exhibition establishment.

You could get a local publican to organise and man the bar and outside caterers to provide the food - a buffet would be ideal. Contact a local theatrical agent or look in your local newspaper (The GEM!) and you might find you can book a disco as well.

Of course, you may be thinking of dining out on Christmas

Day. If this is the case, you had better get down to making that booking right now...

Christmas Day bookings are often booked immediately after the previous Christmas, so be prepared for a few disap-

pointments.

Naturally, the larger the establishment, the more chance you will have of getting a table - but, if your party is large, you may have some difficulty.

All these activities

are part and parcel of the Christmas season, but even at the risk of being repetitive, do remember everyone else will also be thinking along these lines.

So don't put it off, get booking without delay!



The Glenbrook Inn

Free House & Restaurant

CHRISTMAS DAY MENU

We are now back open serving on Christmas Day

4 Course Menu plus appetiser

Adults **£39.50** per person

Children **£19.50** per person

CHRISTMAS FAYRE PARTY MENU

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FONMON, RHOOSE



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Thursday, Friday & Saturday Nights
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3 COURSE MENU ONLY £16.95

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Nights
3 COURSE MENU ONLY £14.95

Christmas Day
6 COURSE MEAL
£49.50 Adults. £10.50 Children (10 yrs & under)

Saturday 24th September
LIVE BAND NIGHT
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Outside Barbeque & Marquee.
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Saturday, 29th October
Fancy Dress!
Fun and Games for all the family!

Monday 31st October

HALLOWEEN QUIZ

Now taking bookings for Christmas

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PARTIES

Party organiser goes free

2 courses **£8.99**

3 courses **£11.99**

Everyone attending a Christmas Party will receive a voucher booklet worth over £100 to enjoy at Hungry Horse

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Five Courses

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Please call for menus and bookings

Quiz Nights Mondays

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The Casa Paco

1 BROAD STREET PARADE, BARRY

Available from 1st December

Christmas Party Menu

Monday-Saturday 6.30-9pm

Deep fried Brie with conserve

Prawn cocktail

Melon with port (or plain melon crown)

Mushrooms cooked in Garlic Butter

Farmhouse Paté served with Chutney

Soup of the day

Creamy Stilton Mushrooms

Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chipolata,

served with Cranberry & Apricot stuffing

Rack of Welsh Lamb with

Port & Redcurrant Sauce

Chicken Princess (breast of chicken cooked in a

white wine and cheese sauce)

Grilled Scotch Fillet Steak (6oz), plain or with a

choice of Au Poivre Sauce (creamy pepper),

Champignon Sauce (rich mushroom) or Diane

Sauce (onion, mushroom, wine & tomato)

Fresh Salmon served with

parsley and lemon sauce

All served with vegetables of the day and potatoes

Choice from the Sweet Trolley

Coffee, Dinner Mint and Mince Pie

£28.50 per person

Friday & Saturday £28.50 per person

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CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

Served Tuesday-Friday 12-2pm

4 Courses **£19.95**

Booking Essential

We will be closed on Christmas Eve.

Open New Years Eve.

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Christmas Party Guide



Local venues are a more than a match for Cardiff when it comes to seasonal parties

THE choice of a venue for the staff or family Christmas meal used to reside with hotels who were well equipped to cope with large groups of party-goers.

That has all changed in the last decade with the proliferation of high quality town and village restaurants and pubs that have made a

quantum leap in the dining experience they offer.

The term 'gastro-pub' coined in 1991 is said to be obsolete now because so many local public houses offer such tempting menus.

Years ago, office parties routinely traipsed from the Vale or Bridgend into the bright lights of Cardiff, but why do that now when there is such a good selection of venues on your own doorstep?

The GEM's dining reviews in recent years have proved that local restaurants and pubs provide a gastronomic excellence that can compete with the best of the Welsh capital.

Barry hosts a wide

dining experience in High Street, Broad Street, on the Island and at the Knap – offering traditional British, mediterranean and oriental courses.

Cowbridge offers a blend of Asian,

Chinese, traditional and modern restaurants.

On the coast Rhosce and Llantwit Major restaurants host not just local people, but the thousands of tourists that flow

through the Vale during the summer months.

This also applies to Porthcawl where visitors are catered for in pubs, hotels and in restaurants, while the countryside around

Bridgend is dotted with fine places to eat, and where office parties are welcomed.

These days, many golf clubs long ago dropped their 'members only' rules, and also cater for outside

functions.

All of these establishments can host Christmas parties – so why travel, when you've got what you need on your own doorstep.

KR's @ The Dolphin
Cabaret REVIVED!
AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES
with Cabaret, Disco & Christmas Menu
Great Tribute Acts – Soul, Motown, Drifters, Dirty Dancing, Ultimate Grease, Boyzlife, Abba plus lots more.
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Christmas Party Days and Nights
28th November - 24th December
£22.50 for a 4 course menu

Good ales, great food, real comfort & log fires... see you soon!

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Book Now for Christmas Parties

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1 Course £9.95
2 Course £13.50
DINNER
1 Course £11.95
2 Course £15.95
3 Course £18.50

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Aperitif and canapes on arrival followed by a 3 course dinner including Midnight glass of Champagne. Accompanied with modern and disco dance music.
— £32.00 —

Cross Inn
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Best Western Mount Sonnel Hotel
Christmas & New Year's 2011

LUNCHEON (Sit down 1pm)
3 course plus coffee & mints
only £15.95

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH (Sit down 1pm)
3 course plus coffee & mints
only £49.50

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS (December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th and 23rd)
(Sit down 8pm)
Prawn Cocktail
Homemade Chicken Liver Paté and Melba Toast
Homemade Cream of Vegetable Soup

Roast Crown of Turkey
with Stuffing and Pigs in Blankets
Roast Leg of Welsh Lamb and Mint Sauce
Grilled Fillet of Salmon with White Wine and Chive Sauce
Vegetarian Brie and Asparagus Cheesecake

All served with Roasted and New Potatoes, Steamed Carrots and Sprouts

Orange and Amaretti Truffle Torte
Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce
Followed by Coffee and Mints
£27.95

VALUE NIGHTS
November 26th, December 21st and 22nd (Sit Down 8pm)
3 Course Menu plus Coffee & Mints
£19.95

TINSEL & TIARAS NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
Prawn Cocktail
Homemade Chicken Liver Paté with Melba Toast
Homemade Cream of Mushroom Soup

Roast Sirloin of Beef and Yorkshire Pudding
with Cream Cheese and Watercress Sauce
Vegetarian Cheese and Walnut Soufflé

All served with New Roast Potatoes, Carrots and Broccoli

Lemon and Mascarpone Parfait
Dark Chocolate and Brandy Torte
Followed by Coffee and Mints
£49.50

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Chaplins STEAK HOUSE

Christmas at Chaplins
Available Monday, 21st November until Monday, 9th January

HOMEMADE CREAM OF VEGETABLE SOUP V
A creamy homemade vegetable soup served with warm crusty bread

CORIANDER, CHILLI AND GARLIC PRAWN TIMBALE
A timbale of marinated prawns, served on bed of dressed lettuce

PLUM & BRANDY PATE
A coarse pork pate served with a plum compote and warm bread

CHICKEN GOUJONS
Prime chicken goujons served on a bed of savoury rice with a sticky red currant and cranberry dressing

ROAST BREAST OF TURKEY
Prime turkey breast served with a Yorkshire pudding stuffed with cranberry and chestnut stuffing and sausage and bacon roll

DUCK WITH PLUM & GINGER
Slow cooked duck breast served in a rich plum and ginger sauce

ROAST TOPSIDE OF BEEF
Roast topside of beef served with Yorkshire pudding stuffed with a cranberry and chestnut stuffing and sausage and bacon roll

PORK WITH HONEY & COARSE GRAIN MUSTARD
A pork steak slowly cooked with honey and mustard served with a ginger and apple compote

HOMEMADE GLAMORGAN SAUSAGE V
A delicious combination of Caerphilly cheese, leeks and bread crumbs made into a homemade sausage and served with redcurrants and cranberry dressing

ALL MAIN COURSES SERVED WITH ROAST & BOILED POTATOES, PEAS, CARROTS, SPROUTS & ROAST PARSNIPS

CHRISTMAS PUDDING & BRANDY SAUCE
Rich Christmas pudding served with a homemade brandy sauce

RICH CHOCOLATE MARQUIS
Served with vanilla cream and orange tuille

LEMON & GINGER CHEESECAKE
Served with raspberry compote

HOMEMADE SHERRY TRIFLE
Topped with shaved chocolate

£28.95 per person

THIS MENU IS AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING ONLY.
A £5 DEPOSIT PER PERSON IS REQUIRED ON RESERVING YOUR TABLE

82 HIGH STREET, BARRY - Tel. 01446 739155
Check our our website for menus www.chaplinsrestaurantbarry.webs.com

Advertise your pub or restaurant in the run-up to Christmas with The Glamorgan GEM - our party guides are a great way to make sure your business gets noticed in time for the seasonal period!
Call us on 01446 774484 or email us at: gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk

An orchestra – all on one keyboard!



LLANTWIT MAJOR WI NEWS

THE September meeting at Llantwit Major WI was a very happy occasion to which other branches were invited.

The speaker was Penny Weedon, whose talk 'An orchestra at my fingertips,' had been eagerly anticipated.

She brought along her keyboard and, while chatting about her interest in musical instruments which she had played through the years, regaled us with anecdotes of her experiences.

All the while, she demonstrated the various instruments on her keyboard; and her repertoire included a full orchestra and a rock 'n' roll band.

The new tablecloth was used on the president's table for the first time: Members had embroidered their names on Welsh felt poppies and members (pictured above) volunteered to stitch them onto the cloth.

The evening ended with a buffet supper. The competition was won by Julia Jenking and the bloom of the month by Bessie Tarlton.

The next meeting will be held on October 6. ET

Pumas progress

BARRY Pumas progressed through to the first round of the Lazarou Brothers Challenge Cup on Sunday with a second-half comeback against Acme Revolution.

The game was fairly even in the first half but Revolution took a 1-0 lead into the second half.

However the Pumas responded with five unanswered goals in the second half. Ben Weekley scored four, with Brian Gillen adding the other for a final score of 5-1.

MS

How Sunlight Village began as a soap shop

ON August 22, an enthusiastic group of ladies set off for our long anticipated visit to Denman College – and we were not disappointed.

It was one of those rare, warm and sunny days, which greatly increased our enjoyment. We were greeted by coffee and a short talk about the history and function of Denman.

This was followed by an excellent lunch and a tour of the college.

We were impressed with the quality of the lecture facilities and the bedrooms.

The September meeting took place in the village hall on September 7, when president Jan Foyle introduced speaker Pamela Robson, who gave a very enlightening talk on the life of William Lever and Port Sunlight village.

The talk was illustrated with photographs both old and new of this amazing place:

William Lever was born in Bolton in 1851. He worked in his father's grocery business, where he would cut and wrap soap for the customers.

He set up a business with his younger brother with the idea of branding and packaging soap.

YSTRADOWEN AND DISTRICT WI NEWS

The company was registered as Lever Brothers, and their most famous brand name became Sunlight.

William was a man of great vision, talent and generosity. He wanted his workers to enjoy good living conditions.

Port Sunlight stands in 103 acres of magnificent matured parkland, purchased by William Lever and boasts 900 grade II listed buildings, the work of more than 30 architects. Each row of houses features a different style of architecture.

At the centre of the village is the world-famous Lady Lever Art Gallery dedicated to his wife when she died in 1913.

This generous man provided a church, a school, a pub and a village hall for the community and a magnificent war memorial, designed by a Welsh architect, stands in the centre of the gardens.

William Lever became a Liberal MP for the Wirral in 1906, and he was created a baronet in 1911. In 1922, he became Viscount Leverhulme.

Jan Foyle proposed a vote of thanks to Pamela

for a most enlightening presentation

After a short break, Jan chaired the business for the evening. The branch has been presented with a lovely carafe and glasses by Claire, daughter of our late and sadly missed member, Janet Legge.

Jan explained the changes made by the federation to the annual AGM, which will take place in the spring in future.

This means that the committee elected at the AGM next month will serve for 18 months.

The competition for an interesting bar of soap was won, not surprisingly, by Trixie Thomas for an original bar of Sunlight soap (unwrapped).

Ystradowen WI won two prizes in the Glamorgan Show.

The monthly walk takes place on September 21, and a coffee morning on September 28. EL

Prince's Trust Cymru students celebrate



Prince's Trust Cymru students with Alun Cairns MP, and Moawia Bin Sufyan, one of the course tutors (far right).

VALE MP Alun Cairns attended a presentation ceremony in Barry for a group of Cardiff and Vale students who recently successfully completed their Prince's Trust Cymru team programme.

The scheme is run by Cardiff & Vale Apprenticeships at the Barry campus of the Cardiff & Vale College.

On the last day before the House of Commons

rose for its summer recess, Mr Cairns had welcomed the group of 12 Prince's Trust students and their tutors from Barry College to Westminster. The visit was part of the activities included on the course.

He was invited to attend the presentation event and congratulated

students on their achievement in completing the 12-week course, based in Barry.

Mr Cairns commented: "The Prince's Trust helped more than three in four young people last year to move into work, education or training, which is a fantastic success rate."

WHAT'S ON/in brief

Vale AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will be holding surgeries on Saturday, September 17, from 10am to 11am at the Old School Hall, Church Lane, St Athan CF62 4PL, and from 11.30am to 12 noon at Rhose Community Centre, Celtic Way, CF62 3FT.

Harvest festival

FRIENDS of St Lawrence at Lavernock Point celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 25, at 3pm, to which all are welcome.

Reverend Margaret Stark, honorary chaplain to the Friends, will lead the service and Ann Thomas will be the organist.

Newcomers will find the listed church building at the sea end of Fort Road, opposite the gateway to Cosmeston Medieval Village.

Free parking is available at the church. Telephone 02920 707776 for further details.

Fashion show for Eisteddfod

KATHY Gittings and Jon Ian are presenting a fashion show to raise funds for the National Eisteddfod, which will take place in the Vale in 2012.

The show will be held in the St Quentin Suite at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, at 7.30pm on September 21.

Tickets are available at £10 from both Cowbridge shops.

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FONMON APIARY NEWS

Preparing for the winter chill – BY GETTING RID OF THE MALES!

ALL of the hives are now beginning to rid themselves of the drones (male bees) – this is a good indicator to beekeepers that the bees are preparing for the winter months ahead.

How well are the colonies prepared for this? It is up to the beekeeper to assess each hive: are there sufficient bees, do they have adequate stores of honey and pollen, is the queen still laying?

For beginners, these are questions that are not easy to answer, so the advice and knowledge of an established beekeeper can and should be sought.

To say the least, the season so far has been variable, as has the weather.

Swarming has been very much to the fore and this certainly affects the hoped-for honey crop from a hive, not that how much honey you can get from the bees is the sole reason for keeping them.

Spring started very well, and the bees responded likewise. However, the shortage of rain soon began to have a noticeable effect – the nectar from a variety of plants dried up.

This led to some hives being fed sugar syrup to help them along; pollen was still coming in but as the queens were still laying, the developing bees

need a diet of pollen and honey to ensure their correct growth, so feeding was required.

The oilseed rape that is always in my area in the spring and which the bees readily access, did not provide me with any great surplus and having eight hives in excellent condition and busy on the rape, the hoped-for crop of several hundred pounds resulted in just 90lbs.

Despite the varied conditions, the bees are decidedly healthier this year. Summer has come and gone (what summer?). Autumn is early and another season is approaching its close.

The Varroa mites are still with us, and the control of these parasites must be addressed.

Treatment will be done using an extract from the Thyme plant to which has been added a chemical to give it the consistency that helps to reduce the mite population.

It is almost biological, but the addition of the chemical means that the beekeeper must record how it was used, when it was used, the batch number, the apary that used it etc, etc.

This is a legal requirement and must be observed. Constant monitoring of all apiaries for pests and diseases that threaten the honeybee has to be observed by beekeepers, be they established or newcomers.

As a case in point, the Small Hive Beetle that is the next threat to bees has now been found in parts of Canada. How did it get there?

Packages of bees were imported from Hawaii, where the said beetle is now in residence. The movement of bees around the globe by man is causing problems of our own making.

To diverge a little, just last week I talked to Mr Gordon Taylor of the charity 'New Hope'. Their base is a charity shop in Llantwit Major and through their good offices they are establishing colonies of bees and other needs in an area of Nicaragua that has suffered from volcanic disruption.

I look forward to receiving updates regarding their venture and I will assist in any way I can, especially with the beekeeping side of things.

All in all, provided we UK beekeepers stay alert to the current problems of the honeybee, things can (and will) hopefully improve.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

School goes 'international'



COGAN Nursery School in the Vale has been awarded the British Council's 'International School Award'.

The accreditation is given to schools which "fully embrace and develop international elements in the curriculum". The aim of the award is to encourage schools to add a global dimension to learning, so that children can understand and appreciate different cultures.

Cogan Nursery School has been working with schools in other countries to help pupils understand what life is like abroad.

Teacher, Peter Thomas, said: "We have many exciting projects that include links with Lesotho, Spain and Turkey. Working with these international schools has given our young people the opportunity to enhance their overall education."

Special 'international days' have taught children about aspects such

as festivals, including Eid and the Chinese New Year, and have also encouraged them to think about global issues such as fair trade and water resources.

The children have been using Skype to connect with other children around the world, and have developed links through writing emails and sending postcards.

As a result of its efforts, the school was recently chosen to host delegates from the USA, China and Ireland, who were attending an international conference relating to play.

Headteacher Pauline Rowland, said: "This award recognises the exciting international dimension of the work at our school and the fantastic links we have created."

"Developing our children as citizens of the world is at the heart of what we do. We aim to make learning about other countries come alive so the pupils know what it is like to be a child there."

Danielle hopes to use her 'specs appeal' to catch eye of the judges!

STUDENT Danielle Picton, has been crowned Wales's Spectacle Wearer of the Year, beating off 200 other contenders.

Danielle (20) of Barry, will now compete against style-setters from across the UK and Republic of Ireland at the grand final, in London's iconic Battersea Power Station on November 15.

She commented after the Welsh final: "I've only worn glasses for four months, but instead of shying away from wearing specs, I decided to go for a bold design and really show them off."

"I really like the way that glasses can be used as a fashion statement and these days there are so many different frames and colours to suit every type of look. This com-



Danielle Picton with her trophy.

petition is a great way to show that.

"I didn't think I'd get through to the final at all, because I'm fairly small so I assumed I couldn't make a career for myself in modelling, but my grandparents entered me in secret and I'm very glad they did!"

"The Welsh final was a very nerve-wracking experience and everyone else looked great on the day, so I really didn't

expect to get through to the grand final in London! I really hope that I can do Wales proud and bring the crown home."

Contestants were judged on their personality and overall specs appeal by a panel of experts at the Welsh final at Specsavers in Cardiff. The panel included the Queen Street store's manager, James Deavall, and a tal-

ent scout from MOT Models. Christopher Simpkin, director of the Specsavers store in Barry, said: "We think that Danielle looks fabulous in her specs and can't wait to see how she gets on at the grand final."

If Danielle is successful, she'll receive a one-year modelling contract with MOT Models, plus a two-week holiday in Barbados or St Lucia, courtesy of Almond Resorts and Virgin Holidays, with £250 worth of spending money.

The winner will also bag a makeover with TV celebrity hairdresser Andrew Barton, a year's supply of skincare products from Simple, a £150 Specsavers eyecare voucher and the coveted Spectacle Wearer of the Year 2011 trophy.

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CARDIFF & THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS' CROSS-COUNTRY PRESENTATION EVENING AT YSGOL GYFYN BRO MORGANNWG

Awards aplenty for local athletes

VALE schools, especially Stanwell and Cowbridge, celebrated their most successful season, in team competitions, when the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' Athletics Association held its annual Cross-Country Association at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg to mark the end of its 15th season.

There are five sections for awards – league competitions, championships, participation at the Aviva Welsh Schools' National championships, international honours and special awards.

In the six to score league competitions, there are six team sections and awards to the six individuals who gained most points in each of those sections over the three league fixtures.

Two Vale girls – Seren Allin (Cowbridge) on her debut in the year-7 section and Bethan Daw (St Cyres) retaining the senior award – gained points awards while Stanwell and Cowbridge won four of the six team titles available.

For the first time since the association was formed in 1996, Stanwell claimed both of the year-7 titles while Cowbridge made it a Vale clean sweep of the girls' league by taking the under-14 and under-19 sections.

At the championships, held at Trelai Park on separate afternoons in January and February, it was again the girls who

outperformed the boys.

While Spencer Robinson (Stanwell), the Llantwit duo of Ben Owen and Alex Simon, and Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive) all gained silver or bronze medals, there were no individual Vale boys winners and only Stanwell claimed a team title, completing a league and championships year-7 double.

In the equivalent girls' sections, Seren Allin and Bethan Daw added the year-7 and under-19 individual titles to their league success while, in a dramatic finish to the senior girls' race, Megan Osborne (Llantwit) came home first to take the under-17 title.

There were also medals for Kate Coker (Stanwell, silver, under-15), Erin Hayes (Llantwit, bronze, under-15) and Fiona Bray (Cowbridge, under-17) while Stanwell and Cowbridge won the four to score team titles in the year-7 and senior sections respectively, but Cowbridge had to settle for second place at under-15.

The late date of Easter this year had a major impact on the Aviva Welsh Schools' Golden Celebration National cross-country championships.

The 'usual' date at the end of February became part of half-term so the event was staged on a Wednesday for the first time – March 16.

For whatever reason, the change proved very beneficial to the Cardiff & the Vale district team with a record number of 91 pupils (out of a potential maximum of 96) competing – the biggest of the eight competing

teams, on a day when over 550 athletes competed in the eight races.

Of the 91, 37 either attended Vale schools or colleges or are resident in the Vale and attend schools in Cardiff.

Seren Allin again underlined her potential by beating Cari Hughes (Eryri) to claim the year-7 girls' title – the first time that a pupil from Cardiff & the Vale has won in this age group – while, in the team competitions, the junior girls' and middle boys' sections were retained and the junior boys' title won, and the other five teams finished in the medals.

The icing on the cake was a share in the Overall Points' trophy – the first time that this has happened since 1989.

As a result of their performances at the Nationals, three Vale pupils – Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive), Kate Coker (Stanwell) and Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg) – represented Welsh Schools at the Aviva SIAB Schools' cross-country international in Antrim, and Seren Allin opened her international account at the Virgin Money Giving Mini London Marathon.

Darren Jones, the senior boys' captain at Brecon, gained recognition for having represented the district over the country every year since 2005 by being the only Vale pupil to receive one of the four special awards.

The Llantwit year-13 received the Denys Gumbley Shield for service. The award is named after Mr Denys Gumbley, a former resident of Harbour Road in

Barry, who taught at Cantonian High School in Cardiff and made an outstanding contribution to schools' cross-country in the old South Glamorgan.

In his concluding remarks, chairman Rob Graves (St Cyres) recorded thanks: to the headteacher of Bro Morgannwg for allowing the presentation to be held at the Vale school; to the PE department at the schools for making the arrangements; to Miss Emma Williams, Mrs Melissa Hunter, Mrs Clare Williams, Mr Ian Dwight and Mr Dai Manley for helping with team management and to Mr Ian Dixon for his photographs.

VALE AWARD WINNERS

LEAGUE AWARDS
Year-7 Girls – under-12 – 25 schools: Pts Seren Allin (Cowbridge) 50; 1 Stanwell 85.

Years 8 and 9 Girls – under-14 – 24 schools: 1 Cowbridge 71.

Years 10 to 14 Girls – under-19 – 17 schools: Pts Bethan Daw (St Cyres) 171; 1 Cowbridge 59.

Year-7 Boys – under-12 – 19 schools: 1 Stanwell 74.

Years 10 to 14 Boys – under-19 – 18 schools: 3 YG Bro Morgannwg 51.

Championships BOYS' CHAMPIONSHIPS held at Trelai Park on January 25, 2011

Year-7 – under-13 – 136 finishers: Individuals – 2nd Spencer Robinson (Stanwell).

Teams – 1st – Stanwell 39; (2nd) Spencer Robinson; 8th Ben McCullagh; 9th Will Marsh; 20th Alex Langrish.

B Team – 1st Stanwell B 126; (29th) Morgan Humphreys; 31st Cameron House; 32nd Will Gale; 34th Ethan Hutchings).

Years 8 and 9 – under-15 – 114 finishers: Individuals – 3rd Ben Owen (Llantwit).

Years 10 to 14 – 92 finishers: under-17: Individuals – 3rd Matthew Edwards (Barry Comp).

Under-20: Individuals – 2nd Alex Simon (Llantwit).

Teams: 2nd – Llantwit 67; (8th) Alex Simon; 17th Darren Jones; 19th Dan Owen; 23rd Tom Howles).

GIRLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS held at Trelai Park on February 8.

Year-7 – under-13 – 107 finishers: Individuals – 1st Seren Allin (Cowbridge).

Teams: 1st – Stanwell 55; (5th) Emily Wooster; 6th Annabelle Birch-Hurst; 11th Seren Marsh; 33rd Georgia Logan-Davies).

Years 8 and 9 – under-15 – 105 finishers: Individuals – 2nd Kate



Stanwell year-7 girls completed a league and championships double.



Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive) received a special plaque. He represented Welsh

Schools at the Aviva SIAB Schools cross-country international in Antrim.

Coker (Stanwell); 3rd Erin Hayes (Llantwit). Teams: 2nd – Cowbridge 57; (10th) Nadine James; 12th Rebecca Thomas; 16th Ela Emyr; 19th Alice Tudor).

Years 10 to 14 – under-20 – 45 finishers: under-17: Individuals – 1st Megan Osborne (Llantwit); 3rd Fiona Bray (Cowbridge). Under-20: 1st Bethan Daw (St Cyres).

Teams: 1st – Cowbridge 47; (4th) Fiona Bray; 11th Bethan Allman; 14th Rachel Bradshaw; 18th Miriam Bennett).

AWARD OF DISTRICT CROSS-COUNTRY COLOURS to athletes who competed at the Aviva Welsh Schools' Golden Celebration National Championships at Brecon on March 16.

Senior Girls – under-20 – Sixth form – Team: 2nd – 115. Dominic Farr Bro Morgannwg 22; Owen Haswell Stanwell 25; Rhys George Bro Morgannwg 28; Alex Simon Llantwit 30; Darren Jones Llantwit 43; Kyle Garrison Barry College 61.

Middle Boys – under-17 – Years 10 and 11 – Team: 1st – 38. Matthew Edwards Barry Comp 4; Rory Heslop Bro Morgannwg 22; Matthew Collins Barry Comp 25; Elliot Clissold Barry Comp 31.

Junior Girls – under-15 – Years 8 and 9 – Team: 1st – 83. Kate Coker Stanwell 7; Erin Hayes Llantwit 28; Nadine James Cowbridge 29; Anna



League winners – Cowbridge year-8 and 9 girls.



Seren Allin (Cowbridge).

Mirza-Davies Stanwell 54.

Year-7 Girls – under-13 – Team: 2nd – 82. Seren Allin Cowbridge 1; Emily Wooster Stanwell 24; Annabelle Birch-Hurst Stanwell 29; Ysabelle Williams Westbourne 33; Seren Marsh Stanwell 35.

Senior Boys – under-20 – Sixth form – Team: 2nd – 115. Dominic Farr Bro Morgannwg 22; Owen Haswell Stanwell 25; Rhys George Bro Morgannwg 28; Alex Simon Llantwit 30; Darren Jones Llantwit 43; Kyle Garrison Barry College 61.

Middle Boys – under-17 – Years 10 and 11 – Team: 1st – 38. Matthew Edwards Barry Comp 4; Rory Heslop Bro Morgannwg 22; Matthew Collins Barry Comp 25; Elliot Clissold Barry Comp 31.

Junior Boys – under-15 – Years 8 and 9 – Team: 1st – 87. Dafydd George Bro Morgannwg 6; Ben



Team captains Jessica Colley (St David's College) and Darren Jones (Llantwit) received the Welsh Schools Overall Points Cup from former Commonwealth Games medallist Matt Elias.

Owen Llantwit 29; Tom Rawlings Llantwit 34; Rian Thomas Cowbridge 59.

Year-7 Boys – under-13 – Team: 2nd – 87. Spencer Robinson Stanwell 11; Aled George Bro Morgannwg 33; Will Marsh Stanwell 34; Ben McCullagh Stanwell 44; Dewi Bennett Cowbridge 56.

ATHLETES WHO GAINED INTERNATIONAL SELECTION

(b) For Welsh Schools at the SIAB International at Antrim on 26/03/2011: Under-17 Boys Matthew Edwards Barry

Comprehensive 27th. Under-15 Boys Dafydd George YG Bro Morgannwg 22nd.

Under-15 Girls Kate Coker Stanwell 32nd. (c) For Welsh Schools at the Mini London Marathon on 25/04/2010: Under-13 Girls Seren Allin Cowbridge 24th 18:51.

SPECIAL AWARDS
The Denys Gumbley Award for Service – Darren Jones (Llantwit).
Report: PETER MORRIS
Photos: IAN DIXON

WHEN RUGBY FIRST CAME TO COWBRIDGE

WHEN did rugby first come to Cowbridge? Well, according to Gwyn Prescott's *This Rugby Spellbound People - Rugby Football In Nineteenth-Century Cardiff & South Wales*: The Cowbridge Grammar School history is vague about exactly when rugby was introduced there.

Fields of Praise says it happened in the early 1870s and this may be confirmed by a press report of a football match played on October 26, 1971 between the Grammar School and a team of Cowbridge 'Gentlemen'.

This well-researched hardback book is a must for all those who take their rugby seri-

by
BRIAN LEE

ously and the author, who is a native of Cardiff, has been involved in rugby for most of his life as a player, administrator and historian. Educated at Cardiff High School, when he captained the Welsh Secondary Schools team in the 1960s, and at Cambridge University, Gwyn was awarded an MPhil, on the history of rugby at the University of Glamorgan and recently completed a three-year period as a research assistant for the International Rugby Board – so is well qualified to write a book of this sort.

Many rugby clubs started out as work teams, street teams and pub teams and just look at some of the

names of the teams that once existed in the Vale of Glamorgan area – Barry Barbarians, Barry Coal Trimmers, Barry Dock Crusaders, Cadoxton Stars, Cadoxton United, Penarth Stars and Penarth Hornets.

As Gareth Williams says in the foreword to this book:

"It is the first detailed and original study of the origins of rugby in Cardiff, from being a fringe activity of the middle class to being a mass-participation sport by the turn of the 20th century.

Priced £48, it is obtainable from the Welsh Academic Press, PO Box 733, Cardiff, or by telephone 02920218187 or email post@welsh-academic-press.com

Cardiff & Vale under-15 track and field championship day

THE Vale boys had an outstanding day at the Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Schools under-15 (years 8 and 9) track and field finals, taking 12 of the 15 individual titles on offer and providing the winning team in the relay.

Sadly, the Vale girls only had three victories, from two Bryn Hafren pupils.

Unlike all the other Cardiff & Vale track and field championships, three preliminary matches are held, with the top six pupils in each event qualifying for the finals. A small number of events – hurdles, hammer, pole vault and triple jump (boys) – are only held on finals day.

The two top performers were the Cowbridge duo of George Griffiths (year-9) and Tom Trotman (year-8). George qualified for the finals in both the 100m and long jump, but pupils are allowed to compete in three individual events, as long as one of them is a field event.

It just shows how quick thinking Mr Glan Williams is that, when Cowbridge arrived at the stadium with only one boy hurdler, he adjusted his team to include George in that event to complete his trio. It was an inspired decision as George started his activities for the day with wins in his hurdles heat and the A final, following that up with a comfortable first in the long jump. He completed his afternoon with another heat and final win in the 100m metres. Three points won, 51 points gained!

Tom also qualified in two events – 200m and high jump. With the sprint timetable early in the programme, despite being a year young, he chalked up a heat win followed by victory in the final, though in a slightly slower time.

In the high jump, the championship best stands at 1.83 metres to another precocious former Cowbridge pupil, Richard Harbour.

Tom won the event at 1.65 metres but, having discussed the matter with his coach, John Penny, had three attempts at a new best. It was not to be this year, but who knows what may happen next year. Two wins, and another 34 points for Cowbridge.

There were two further wins for Cowbridge boys, both in the throws – year-9 Joe Gaughan headed the field in the shot while Harri Dowell-Bennett took the discus title. Another 34 points for Cowbridge.

Llantwit had three winners – Ben Owen (800m), Hugo Billington (hammer) and Richard Dangerfield (javelin) – with Iwan Mephem (Bro Morgannwg) taking the pole vault and Che Pomphrey proving the

fittest in the 400m while St Cyres triumphed in the relay.

For the girls, Zoe Jenkins claimed an unusual 100m/high jump double while Tillie Carter can be pleased with her first success in the 1500m walk. The duo racked up 51 points for Bryn Hafren.

In the team competitions, Cowbridge (230) had to settle for third behind Cardiff High (268) and Whitchurch, while Bro Morgannwg, past winners in the girls' competition, had to settle for second behind Whitchurch (213) this year.

The individual winners will receive their awards at the Cardiff & the Vale Track and Field Presentation evening, which was held at Whitchurch Lower School on Tuesday, September 13.

Photofinish was used for timing track races at this event, and Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools association would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Mr Derek Crowder, the Welsh Athletics Officials' Secretary, for setting the equipment up at Leckwith and organising an inexperienced team of teachers to operate the system.

Results of Vale pupils: **Under-15 boys** – years 8 and 9 – 100: Ht 1: 4 Callum Michelson (Barry) 13.24; Ht 2: 4 Harri Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 13.23; Ht 3: 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 12.45; 3 Luke Purnell (Barry) 13.49; 4 James Walsh (Bro M) 13.65; Fin: 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 11.90; 8 Harri Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 13.07.

200: Ht 1 (ws -3.1): 2 Callum Smith (St Cy) 26.89; Ht 2 (ws -0.4): 1 Tom Trotman (Cow) 25.10; Ht 3 (ws -2.4): 2 Sam Laity (West) 26.27; 4 James Walsh (Bro M) 26.94; 6 Luke Purnell (Barry) 27.26; Fin (ws -3.7): 1 Tom Trotman (Cow) 25.50; 4 Sam Laity (West) 26.42; 8 Callum Smith (St Cy) 27.93.

400: Ht 1: 1 Trenton Scantlebury (St Cy) 59.03; 4 James Neil (Bro M) 1:00.25; Ht 3: 4 Che Pomphrey (Stan) 59.40; 5 Matthew Broderick (Bro M) 1:01.04; Fin: 1 Che Pomphrey (Stan) 59.72; 2 Trenton Scantlebury (St Cy) 60.08.

800: 1 Ben Owen (Lwt) 2:12.96; 4 Kristian Jones (Cow) 2:20.76; 5 Alex Love (Cow) 2:21.14; 7 Tom Geen (Stan) 2:23.44; 8 Thomas Harvard (St Cy) 2:23.51; 14 Taylor Harris (Bro M) 2:33.13; 15 Daniel Bell (StRichG) 2:33.45; 16 Cameron Gibbon (Barry) – ns 2:35.78.

1,500: 3 Dafydd George (Bro M) 4:49.07; 4 Cameron Jones (Cow) 4:50.67; 7 Gareth Hurman (Barry) 4:57.50;

12 Tom Rawlings (Lwt) 5:09.56; 13 Elliot Morris-Devred (Barry) 5:10.20; 17 Tom Owen (Cow) 5:23.98.

80H: Ht 1 (ws +0.7): 2 Alan Evans (Bro M) 15.04; 4 Amin Ulliau (Barry) 15.48; 5 Reece Bennett (Lwt) 16.22; 6 Che Pomphrey (Stan) 16.40; 7 Bradley O'Loughlin (StRichG) 16.88; 8 Tom Bellamy (StRichG) 17.33; Ht 2 (ws -3.0): 2 James Neil (Bro M) 13.94; 5 Bradley Rosser (Cow) 14.54; 6 Callum Tumelty (Barry) 14.88; 7 Harri Simpson (St Cy) 15.24; Ht 4 (ws -1.9): 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 13.49; A Fin (ws -4.3): 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 13.45; 6 James Neil (Bro M) 14.58; B Fin (ws -1.5): 1 Bradley Rosser (Cow) 14.13; 2 Callum Tumelty (Barry) 14.34; 7 Harri Simpson (St Cy) 15.30.

Teams: 3 Cowbridge 230; 4 Bro Morgannwg 149; 8 St Cyres 84; 9 Barry 75; 10= Llantwit 73; 18 Stanwell 50; 19 St Richard Gwyn 38; 20 Westbourne 36.

Under-15 girls – Years 8 and 9 – 100: Ht 1: 1 Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cow) 14.25; 2 Zoe Jenkins (Bryn H) 14.26; Ht 2: 3 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 14.77; 5 Karisha Dee (Lwt) 15.32; 6 Ambra John (StRichG) 15.41; Fin (ws -4.1): 1 Zoe Jenkins (Bryn H) 14.35; 2 Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cow) 14.53; 3 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 15.02.

200: Ht 1 (ws -1.9) 5: Tamara Pitt (Lwt) 31.59; Ht 2 (ws -0.3) 1 Kate Coker (Stan) 29.53; 6 Kerys Jenkins (Bro M) 31.54; Ht 3 (ws -1.8) 3 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 30.90; Fin (ws -0.9) 4 Kate Coker (Stan) 29.95.

800: 2 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 2:35.75; 4 Ana Mirza-Davies (Stan) 2:46.45; 7 Elin Bowen (Bro M) 2:53.02; 8 Maisie Squire (Stan) 2:53.39; 12 Alice Tudor (Cow) 3:01.57; 14 Megan Davies (Bro M) 3:03.49; 15 Kierney O'Dare (Lwt) 3:07.55; 16 Heulwin Hill (StRichG) 3:16.38.

1,500: 2 Kate Coker (Stan) 5:27.09; 3 Ellie Atkinson (Lwt) 5:36.95; 7 Nadine James (Cow) 5:49.50; 9 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 6:02.28; 10 Ffion Davies (Bro M) 6:13.55; 13 Holly Howles (Lwt) 6:47.46.

75H: Ht 1 (ws -3.5): 4 Aimee Miller (Lwt) 15.46; 5 Jennifer Hampton (Bro M) 16.30; 7 Gabby King (StRichG) 17.40; Ht 2 (ws -2.6): 2 Sarah Lewis (Cow) 14.82; Ht 3 (ws -2.0) 1 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 13.49; 4 Phoebe Nixon (Lwt) 14.95; 8 Rebecca Gill (StRichG) 16.99; A Fin (ws -1.9) 3 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 13.63; 7 Sarah Lewis (Cow) 15.67; B Fin (No ws) 2 Aimee Miller (Lwt) 15.55; 8 Jennifer Hampton (Bro M) 16.13.

1,500 Walk: 1 Tillie Carter (Bryn H) 10:09.10; 2 Kim Jerwood (Cow) 10:47.12; 5 Ellie Eddy-Williams (Cow) 11:31.16; 6 Mali O'Donnell (Bro M) 11:31.22; 8 Megan Hill (Bro M) 11:39.42.

4x100: Ht 2: 2 Bro Morgannwg 57.74; 3 Llantwit 58.29; 4 Stanwell 1:00.16; Ht 3: 2 Cowbridge 56.79; 5 St Richard Gwyn 1:01.04; Fin: 5 Bro Morgannwg 57.7; 6 Cowbridge 58.5; 7 Llantwit 59.10.

HJ: 1 Zoe Jenkins (Bryn H) 1.43; 2 Annabel Curle (Cow) – ns 1.43; 5 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 1.35; 7= Kate Spence (StRichG) 1.30; 10 Tamara Pitt (Lwt) 1.30; 11= Tilly Matthews (Bro M) 1.25; 15 Caitlin Beer (St Cy) 1.25; 18 Emily Gillard (StRichG) 1.15.

LJ: 3 Chelsea Hutcheon (Bryn H) 4.25; 4 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 4.22; 5 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 4.15; 6 Shanella Evans (Lwt) 4.13; 7 Ambra John (StRichG) 4.08; 10 Sarah Lewis (Cow) 3.92; 12 Joanna Wilkins (Cow) 3.86; 18 Olivia Hamzelou (Stan) 3.32.

SP: 3 Megan Hill (Bro M) 7.15; 7 Chloe McBratney (StRichG) 6.84; 8 Paige Williams (Cow) 6.79; 13 Phoebe Elias (Bro M) 5.79; 15 Ruth May (Lwt) 5.58; 18 Carian O'Toole (Lwt) 4.85.

DT: 2 Emma Llewellyn (Stan) 18.15; 7 Mali O'Donnell (Bro M) 16.15; 10 Ellie Atkinson (Lwt) 15.17; 16 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 11.11.

HT: 6 Kim Williams (Bro M) 18.38; 8 Megan Hill (Bro M) 15.23; 11 Chloe McBratney (StRichG) 13.69; 12 Rachel Shalom (StRichG) 12.55.

JT: 2 Tizzie Birch-Hurst (Stan) 22.98; 3 Danielle Dakin-Weston (Lwt) 22.55; 6 Rachel Shalom (StRichG) 18.57; 15 Nia Patel (Cow) 13.29.

Teams: 2 Bro Morgannwg 186; 7 Cowbridge 109; 8 Llantwit 107; 9 Stanwell 87; 11 Bryn Hafren 65; 12 St Richard Gwyn 64; 23 St Cyres 3.

CADOXTON'S 'PERFECT DAY' AGAINST THEIR OLD FRIENDS

THE season is coming to a close but the visit from Bridgewater to Cadoxton brought together old friends – once again.

The first meeting four years ago was arranged to celebrate the centenary of both clubs, and it has continued since with the camaraderie increasing all the time.

Last week was no exception, and the result could not have been better with a perfect draw.

Three of the rinks ended with just a single shot difference on each.

Howard Craven came up against strong opposition and was well beaten, when he skipped against Len Elswood. Len, a county player for Somerset, assisted with the arranging of the original fixture after a chance meeting with Don Kuhnell in a match between Somerset and Vale of Glamorgan.

However, John Stewart's rink had better success against his opposition, who were restricted to just six winning ends.

Over the two rinks there was a deficit of five shots.

Derek Brook also had a win which included a five at the half way stage, and a final four shot advantage. Roy Harding's four built a commanding lead by the 14th end of 14-4, but only scored two more singles with eleven shots against.

Graham Brown also had a one shot success, in a close game, but only behind on one

CADOXTON 102 BRIDGEWATER 102

occasion, at 9-10 on the 12th end.

The opposition steadily built up an impressive lead, against Don Kuhnell's rink. So the farewell was made with arrangements already being completed for another return fixture next year at Bridgewater.

The problem was with Don who did consider dropping out during the game, with a pain in his leg and back, and not giving much support. However, a recovery over the last three ends reduced the deficit to just one shot.

Gordon Stamp, Bridgewater's own version of 'Jethro', fronted the entertainment after tea with a never ending supply of jokes. Len Elswood sang the Bridgewater club's personal 'bowls song' with everyone joining in the chorus.

Derek Brook gave a rendition of Tom Jones' 'Green Grass of Home' to give the occasion a Welsh flavour.

Unfortunately, the enjoyment had to end as the coach had to leave. So the farewell was made with arrangements already being completed for another return fixture next year at Bridgewater.

D Fanning, S Clarke, D Tuck, H Craven 11 - 27

G Powell, M Mathews, M Curtis, J Stewart 23 - 12

G Solomon, J Stacey, J Sugden, D Kuhnell 16 - 17

T Bishop, B Knight, W Vaughan, G Brown 16 - 15

S Clements, L Adams, R Cole, R Harding 16 - 15

H Hellyar, A Turner, G Davies, D Brook 20 - 16

Final score: 102 - 102.

DK

Clinton is top Welsh points scorer in China



ON August 11, The GEM featured Barry YMCA gymnast, Clinton Purnell, who was off to Shenzhen in China to compete in the World Student Games.

Clinton is now back and the team came 12th out of about 30, with Clinton recording the top score for rings and vaults, together with high scores for floor and parallel bars.

Clinton is pictured (above) receiving the Barry Lions' cheque from president Julian Meredith, and (below) with his coach Peter Haysham, who was also the national coach for the Games.

DL



Jodi breaks Nordic record!

WITH more than double the normal turnout for this year's Robin Hood Nordic Walking event, held in Nottingham, the Welsh team were looking sleek and stylish in their new red team colours.

The English, Welsh and International teams battled for the places as they poled their way around the course.

By mile four at the university lake, Jodi (Barefoot Studio Team) from Cowbridge had a minute lead on second-placed Martin Stephens from Melbourne, Derbyshire.

Behind them were 23 people striding out in this most scenic course, supported along the way by their crew from

British Nordic Walking.

Jodi powered her way to the finish in a British record of 2hr:44min. Martin, the first man in, arrived 4 minutes later and was followed in third place by Jodi's team mate Karen Ingram, also from Cowbridge, who finished in 2hr:54min.

In all, the Welsh Nordic walking team won gold for the fastest team, and gold and silver medals in the women's race, plus the trophy for overall fastest finish time.

If you'd like to know more about Nordic walking contact Catherine, director of British Nordic Walking on 07940 575758, or go to www.britischnordicwalking.org.uk.

KI

Barry RFC choose wrong options in the Pontyclun mud

BARRY travelled to Pontyclun last Saturday to be greeted by a blustery wind and light drizzle.

They started confidently, with some good offensive tackling and Cummings rewarded this aggressive opening after only five minutes with a penalty.

However, the home side were able to level the scores when poor tackling allowed them to set up position for a penalty of their own.

After 15 minutes, poor tackling in the backs put pressure on

PONTYCLUN RFC 16 BARRY RFC 9

the Barry pack, allowing another penalty to be converted by their opponents.

The weather was now deteriorating fast and heavy rain was being blown along by a very strong, blustery wind.

During the latter period of the first half Barry demonstrated that their frailties of the first game of the season had not been addressed.

Too often their defensive set-ups

appeared to be all at sea and they were unable to deal with kicks ahead.

For the second half Barry had the benefit of the strong wind but decided to play with ball in hand and employ short grubber kicks ahead, even in their own 22.

Long downwind kicks should, in this correspondents opinion, be the order of the day to set up attacking field position and the very impressive

Pontyclun outside half had used such tactics in the first half.

Despite an early successful penalty the Barry tactics had the inevitable result.

The home fly half pounced on a defensive error to storm over under the posts and he then slotted over the conversion to give them a 13-6 advantage going into the last quarter.

With play now badly affected by the worsening weather conditions, the game degenerated into a hard slog between the two packs.

There were some cameos of play to lighten the gloom, particularly involving Hadfield, Bowditch, Lee and Provis.

Only right at the death did the visitors change tactics, and with that got the reward of a penalty to earn a losing bonus point.

This was a game that Barry could and should have won and it is to be hoped that the team and coaching staff take on board the need to use tactics, which reflect prevailing conditions.

Team.
Provis, Galavan,
J.Jones, Busitil,
Williams, Cummings,
Lee, Bowditch, Evans,
Hollister, Deguara,
King, O'Sullivan,
Hadfield, H.Jones,
Subs. Parker,
Eldsworth, Poole.

Next Saturday Barry are home to Llandaff North with kick off at 2.30pm.



Victory for Sea View

LEFT:
Hard-hitting action as Sea View RFC earned a 32-12 victory over Caerau (Ely).

PHOTOGRAPHS by
ALISTAIR ROWLAND

SEA VIEW 1st XV
CAERAU (ELY) 2nd XV

32
12

IN front of huge home support, Sea View First XV took to the field to face a very respectable Caerau (Ely) outfit.

The View knew it would be a tough encounter, as their opponents won the Ninian Stuart Cup last season, and have a very strong First XV in WRU Division Six.

With Glyn Smith honoured as captain for his final game before relocating to Birmingham, the team took to the field with the sense of apprehension, something that the first league match always brings at the start of every season.

From the picture-perfect kick-off, the View defended impeccably and immediately turned over Caerau's ball, only for a handling error to quash a counter-attack.

Unfortunately, unforced errors would set the tone of the first half for the Islanders, and many more followed, allowing Caerau to grow in confidence and show the self-belief that the View severely lacked.

As the half progressed, so did the frustration, until a relatively new, but well-rehearsed, manoeuvre saw the forwards link perfectly with the backs to allow James Braithwaite to score a converted try near the posts.

However, this only



seemed to fire-up the visitors and some individual brilliance from their centre saw the Sea View defence crumble and concede an unconverted try prior to the half-time whistle.

Half-time score: Sea View 7 - 5 Caerau.

The team talk at the interval transformed Sea View and what looked like a totally new team took to the field.

A calmer, more relaxed XV began pressurising the opposition and after some silky smooth hands, captain Smith came from full-back to score a fantastic unconverted try in the corner.

From the kick-off, the reassured and reinvigorated side began to use the ball in the way they have been educated during pre-season.

The inevitable try from second row, Joe Maytum came after some phenomenal hands from the backs.

Caerau began to weaken, and a penalty for offside was awarded to the View in front of

the posts. This was duly converted to take the score to 20-5.

The Sea View pack began to dominate at the breakdown and their individual efforts were enough to secure the ball for the backs to use time and again.

Tom Martin, bound for Afghanistan this week, performed superbly and created other tries but fell short of the line himself.

A scrum six metres out allowed No 8 Leon Ford to pick up and crash through the defenders to score a converted try to make the score 27-5 to the home side, securing that vital bonus point.

Sea View quickly regrouped for the return-

ing kick-off and Enright created rugby magic by performing no less than three sidesteps before running 50 metres to score a brilliant individual, unconverted try.

Sea View First XV had kicked-off their season with a bonus-point win!

The Second XV went down 19-36 to a very experienced Llandaff outfit.

There were positives – three good tries scored and at times the View played well.

The potential is there, and against a less street-wise team, the result would have been different.

MV

Cowbridge Seconds win

COWBRIDGE
Second XV took on
Canton at the
Athletic Ground.

It was great to see so many good players having a run out, and an enjoyable game followed, resulting in a victory for the home side.

Canton scored first in the eighth minute, with an attack down the left, that led to an unconverted try.

Five minutes later, No. 8 Ross Gibbon dipped his shoulder into several defenders – and broke through before a ruck was formed.

Scrum half Tom Harrison got the ball away to full back Nick Davies on the burst, and he beat his man and set off on a 30-metre run to the try line; outside half Mike Lloyd added the extras.

At the mid point, after a good break by Mike Lloyd, the ball was moved along the line for captain Chris Lawless to score an unconverted try.

There were several changes at half time. After 10 minutes, Canton drove their No 8 over to bring the margin to just two points.

The game fluctuated to and fro, and it took a great dive and shove into touch by Gibbon to

keep Canton's left wing from scoring.

Jamie Bassett was showing up well on the wing, then a nasty wrist injury saw lively prop Sam Massey leave the field.

The referee now ordered passive scrums, and on 25 minutes and on their 25, Canton tried to pass along the line, only for centre Aaron Glassar to pressure his centre.

The ball went free, Glassar hacked on and won the race to the line for a try that Lloyd converted.

Canton put over a penalty with five minutes to go and, with just two minutes to go, it took a great last-ditch tackle by full back Rhys Llewellyn to stop Canton's right wing scoring. So, with much relief, the game ended 19-13.

The majority of the team were youngsters who played with plenty of vim and vigour, supplemented by some experience around them.

Well done to everyone who played.

This Saturday, the Seconds entertain Sea View, Barry, at home; again we will need all available players.

RV/RK

COWBRIDGE UNDER-9s ON A LEARNING CURVE

THERE was a dry start for once to the new season as Cowbridge under-9s travelled to Pontypridd.

With the team awash with body armour, and gum shields at the ready, 10 hardy souls lined up.

Game one: Pontypridd 6 Cowbridge 0.

After some good tackling by Cowbridge in the opening period of play, Pontypridd eventually crossed the line after doggedly recycling the ball for phase after phase.

Unfortunately for Cowbridge, this pattern was repeated throughout the game.

They were given a good lesson in the three golden rules of under-9 rugby in their first competitive game: *Keep possession; keep possession; keep possession!*

Cowbridge had very little time on the ball in attack and, despite showing a good deal of individual flair, failed to master the art of successfully recycling the ball.

Once in possession, Pontypridd showed excellent shape and disci-

pline, allowing them to cross the Cowbridge line six times.

Game two: Pontypridd 5 Cowbridge 0

The remaining seven players in the squad (plus three from game one) took to the field for the second game.

They also struggled to come to terms with the structure and discipline shown by Pontypridd.

Despite coming close on a number of occasions the team also failed to cross the line.

There was no huge difference in skill, commitment or physicality from Cowbridge.

The basics were all in place and the boys will do a lot better over the next few games as they adjust to under-9s rugby.

Squad: Iwan-Thomas Bartle, Sam Coates, Ioan Davies, Jay Downes, Elis Greenwood, David Harris, Robbie Hawkins, Harri Howkins, Oliver Jarmaine, Aled Leitch, Charlie Locke, McKinley Parsons, Jack Riley, Harry Whitaker, Dewi Williams, Jake Williams and Rhys Williams.

GW

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (BARRY AREA) (PROHIBITION OF ACCESS) (ALLEYGATING – TIDY TOWNS) ORDER 2011

1. On the 2nd September 2011, The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 & 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below.

2. The Order will come into operation on the 19th September 2011 or on the date that each Alleysgate is installed and a copy of the Order and plans showing the affected area may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

3. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 19th September 2011 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

4. Except as provided by the Order:-

No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed, at any time, along the service lanes specified in the schedule below.

5. No person shall proceed on foot or pedal cycle, at any time, along the service lanes specified in the schedule below.

SCHEDULE

The lengths of Service Lanes to be restricted are:

Rear Lane from 146 Jenner Road to 190 Jenner Road
Rear Lane from 34 to 40 Daniel Street
Rear Lane from 72 Trinity Street to 39 (side elevation) Gadlys Road

Dated this 15th day of September 2011

M E Punter
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps, Wenvoe CF5 6AA



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2011 GORCHYMYN (GWAHARDD MYNEDIAD) (ARDAL Y BARRI) (GATIAU PEN LńN – TREFI TACLUS)

1. Ar 2 Medi 2011, bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adranau 1 a 2 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddwygiedig), a phob p_e_r galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn i'r effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifir isod.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 19 Medi 2011 neu ar y dyddiad y caiff pob gât ben lôn ei gosod, a chwech weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r cynlluniau sy'n dangos yr ardal dan sylw yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

3. Os hoffech ddadlau'n erbyn dilyswydd y Gorchymyn, neu'i ddarpari-aethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod b_e_r i'w gweithredu, neu am y tybiwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod, neu un o'i hofferynnau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 19 Medi 2011 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Llys i'r diben hwnnw.

4. Ac eithrio fel y darperir gan y Gorchymyn:-

Ni fydd hawl i neb yrru na chaniatáu i neb arall yrru cerbyd ar unrhyw adeg ar hyd y lonydd gwasanaeth a nodwyd yn yr atodlen isod.

5. Ni fydd hawl i neb gerdded na seiclo ar unrhyw adeg ar hyd y lonydd gwasanaeth a nodwyd yn yr atodlen isod.

ATODLEN

Cyfyngir ar y darnau canlynol o lonydd gwasanaeth:

Y lôn gefn rhwng 146 a 190 Jenner Road

Y lôn gefn rhwng 34 a 40 Daniel Street

Y lôn gefn rhwng 72 Trinity Street a 39 Gadlys Road (ochr yr adeilad).

Dyddiedig 15 Medi 2011

M E Punter
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwentô CF5 6AA



Ivor Goodsite top of the class at Palmerston!



The Palmerston Primary School children are clearly delighted to see Ivor!

CONSTRUCTION industry mascot Ivor Goodsite recently popped into Palmerston Primary school to talk to pupils about safety on building sites.

Ivor Goodsite, developed by the Considerate Constructors Scheme, was used by Weston Contractors and Newydd Housing Association to engage with the young audience.

Ivor encouraged them to stay safe in and around construction sites, specifically at present in Ffordd Elin, Barry, and told them about potential hazards

they may find and what to do in different situations.

The school's Headteacher, Mark Middlemiss, said: "Ivor certainly puts smiles on faces! The pupils thoroughly enjoyed his visit and were captivated by his advice."

Weston Contractors are currently building three new disabled adapted homes at Ffordd Elin in Barry for Newydd Housing Association.

Building began in May 2011 and families are expected to move into the two-bedroom homes in November.

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr John + Paul Barker – Tanglewood, Westra, Dinas Powys – internal alterations including single storey extension with in rear recess, and rear first floor balcony.

Mrs Nasim Akhtar – 94 Barry Road, Barry – conversion of existing dwelling house and ground floor shop to two self-contained units. A) three bed, ground floor flat, B) two bed first floor flat. Alterations to front and rear elevations, no extensions.

Mr Andrew Plumpton – 1 St Augustine's Road, Penarth – fell a mature cherry tree.

Mr William Stewart – 6 Beach Road, Penarth – addition of two roof light windows to the main roof front elevation and replacement of existing metal balcony railings with a glass balcony.

Mr Allun Thomas – 38 Chandlers Way, Penarth – installation of steel framework balcony to front first floor.

Romeo Pizza – 13 Vere Street, Barry – new signage, roller shutters and external flue to rear.

Mrs Susan Macdonald – Ash Cottage, Ystradowen – renewal of planning permission 2006/01315/FUL – two storey addition to side to provide ensuite and store alterations and additions to rear to provide conservatory and additional accommodation.

Prof Nick Craddock – Ffaldwen, Heol Y March, Bonvilston – extend existing detached garage creating large tractor housing and storage area, with access through structure, linking domestic dwelling (area) and agricul-

tural smallholding (area).

Mr Neil Harris – 21 Byrd Crescent, Penarth – proposed loft conversion with rear dormer.

Mr Jason Clarke – The Summer House, The Downs, St Nicholas – erection of ground floor front extension and first floor front extension.

Mr Powell – Milverton, Wesley Street, Llantwit Major – fell ash tree in rear garden.

Mr Ian Wilson – 30 Clive Place, Penarth – fell Lawson tree.

Mr Sian Morris – 12 Riverwalk, Llantwit Major – fell ash tree in rear garden.

Mr Kerslake – building plot alongside Blacksmiths Arms PH, Llanmaes – remove elm trees growing towards roof of public house – replace with new hedge.

Driving Standards Agency – Unit 16, BSC, Hood Road, Innovation Quarter, Barry – change of use from B1 to sui generis for the purposes of a Driving Test Centre, with allocated parking.

Mr Richard Anthony – Pentre Hwt Farm, Llanphfa, Ewenny – additions to existing grain storage buildings.

Mr Gerald Long – Gwddi Hw Cottage, Treherhyngyll – proposed single storey extension to existing study.

Mr Jonathan Bird – Beili Mawr Home Farm, Dyffryn – installation of 196 solar PV panels on barn roof.

Ms Ceri Trontman-Jones – Trem Y Fro, Maerdy Newydd Farm, Bonvilston – new field gate access to highway from field.

Tenancy deposit scheme support is welcomed...

Although Minister Grant Shapps has ruled out compulsory Clients' Money Protection for letting agents in the foreseeable future, the Tenancy Deposit Scheme, TDS, has welcomed government support for its members.

A huge 98 per cent of the scheme's members are letting agents who have separate clients' money accounts that are safeguarded through their membership of the industry organisations, the Association of Residential Lettings Agents, the National Association of Estate Agents, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the National Approved Letting Scheme and the Law Society.

The self-regulation imposed on members of these organisations has been praised by the Government in a letter to the Chief Executive of ARLA and the NAEA it was revealed this week.

The letter points out that Government "Always suggests that anyone considering using a letting agent checks to see that they belong to a trade body or accreditation scheme."

Steve Harriott, Chief Executive of the Tenancy Deposit Scheme, said: "Tenants and landlords must check the agent has client

money protection insurance. This provides the assurance that they will be giving their deposits and rents to a properly regulated agent.

"At TDS, we now refuse letting agents as members of our scheme unless we are sure that they belong to the industry organisations that insist on clients' money protection.

"We have taken the view that unregulated agents are too risky for us to work with because of our bad experiences where a small but significant number have gone bust taking all their clients' money with them," he added.

Steve Harriott welcomed the Government's vote of confidence in the industry's self-regulation, but stressed the importance of all regulated letting agents promoting the benefits of membership of their own regulatory body and of the Tenancy Deposit Scheme.

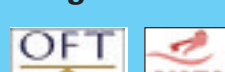
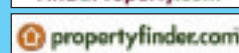
"Some unregulated letting agents are going out of business and simply stealing landlords' and tenants' money when they go down.

"In the absence of government regulation, landlords and tenants are well advised to shop around and make sure that their agent is a member of one of the recognised schemes that offer client money protection insurance."

1 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AA
Sales: 01446 736888
Lettings: 01446 734668
www.homesonview.co.uk
www.ninaestateagents.co.uk



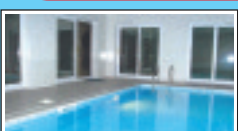
website:
www.ninaestateagents.co.uk
email:
enquiries@ninaestateagents.co.uk



MERTHYR DYFAN COURT, BARRY
Spacious secure living. Five beds, modern detached, gated secure courtyard, three rec rooms, kitchen/diner approx 20ft, utility room, ensuite wet, walk in dressing room, double garage, enclosed rear garden. No chain.
£485,000



BRYN Y MOR, THE KNAP, BARRY
Imposing detached, built in 1950's, bay fronted, four bedrooms, lake gardens and sea views. Living room, dining room, oak block flooring, kitchen with integrated appliances, conservatory, utility room. Integral garage/driveway. Well established garden.
£429,950



THE NURSERIES, RHOOSE
Detached bungalow. Private access, indoor heated pool, three bedrooms, CCTV monitoring, ensuite, kitchen, utility room, suitable for wheelchair use.
£399,950



GRAYTON COTTAGE, HIGHLIGHT LANE, BARRY
Spacious dorma detached bungalow. Ground floor: Study (bedroom), living room, dining and sun lounge, 2 bedrooms, kitchen/breakfast. 1st floor: Sitting room, dressing room, bathroom and master bedroom. Private garden and garage.
£374,950



WESTWARD RISE, BARRY
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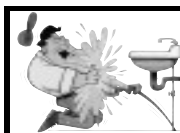
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Public Notice

NOTICE OF MAKING OF AN ORDER (OTHER THAN AN ACQUISITION EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER)

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 5 ST NICHOLAS PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2011

The above order, made on the 1st day of August 2011, under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, will divert Public Footpath No 5 St Nicholas from the alignment A-B to the alignment A-C-D as shown on the order map.

A copy of the order and the order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at The Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the order and map may be bought there at the price of £4.50.

Any representations about or objections to the order may be sent in writing to the Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration, Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 13th day of October 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Vale of Glamorgan Council may confirm the order as an unopposed order. If the order is confirmed, any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the order.

Dated this 15th day of September 2011



GEM Family Notices

REED Colin

Peacefully on September 8th at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Colin (Scobie) of St Athan. Beloved husband of the late Ann, dearly loved father of Joanne and Suzanne, father-in-law of Nick and much loved grandfather of Callum, Ethan, Kristian and William.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon.

Funeral Monday 19th September, service 12 noon at St Athan Church followed by interment in St Athan Cemetery.

Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhose, CF62 3DZ.

HARVEY Rowena Elizabeth

On 6th September, Rowena (Betty), aged 93, nee Owen, widow of Donald, mother to Andrew and the late Alexander.

MERRICK Alan

Peacefully after long illness, bravely borne, on Friday, September 9th at Holme Tower, Penarth, Alan of Cowbridge, beloved husband of Liz, dearly loved father of Katherine and Amanda, loving father-in-law of Carl, treasured grandfather of Dafydd and Celyn.

Funeral Friday, September 16th. Service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired, to either the Lymphoma Association or Marie Curie Cancer Care, c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend. Tel. 01656 650831

KEEBLE George Edward

On 9 September at Llandough Hospital, peacefully after a short illness and surrounded by all his family, Captain George Edward Keeble, of Barry, beloved husband of the late Helen, dearly loved father and father-in-law of John and Ivy, David and Lynda, Peter and Heather, Paul and Amanda, a much loved grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Tuesday, September 20, service and interment 1pm at St Cadocs Church, Llancarfan. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to RNLI c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhose, CF62 3DZ.

JAMES Linda Margaret

Passed away August 29th, 2011 aged 52 Robert and family wish to express their heartfelt thanks to the staff of Holme Towers, Penarth who cared for Linda with dignity and compassion during her short illness.

Special thanks to the Reverend David Boulton for his warm and comforting services at Llanannor Church and Coychurch Crematorium.

Finally, sincere thanks to everyone for messages of sympathy, for kind donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care in memory of Linda and for your attendance and participation at the funeral service.

McKENZIE Glesni

Peacefully on 9th September at her home in Boverton. Glesni aged 61 years a well known District Nurse. Beloved wife of Simon. Glesni will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Funeral service on Tuesday, 20th September 2011 at Coychurch Crematorium (Where all please meet) at 11.00am. Family flowers only please if wished donations (cheques only please) to Marie Curie Cancer Care (Holme Tower) c/o The Funeral Director, W A Brown & Son, Llantwit Major. 01446 792489

LYCETT Keith Bethell

A much loved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, died peacefully on Sunday, 11th September 2011. Funeral at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm on Thursday, 22 September 2011.

No flowers by request, but donations, if desired to Marie Curie Cancer, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

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Bison Straight Stairlift Right Hand, electric/battery back up. Excellent condition. Quick sale re: house move. Buyer to collect. £400 ono 07860 889424

1996 Ford Escort LX Automatic 1.6 5-dr Hatchback Red, 51k genuine miles, MOT end July 2012 £750 ono Tel. 01446 751713

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Penarth junior under-9s reach Llantwit Major festival final

ON September 9, Penarth Mini and Junior RFC under-9s were invited to the Llantwit Major annual Mini Festival where they experienced the big step up from tag to contact rugby.

From their squad of 25 players, 15 were selected for the tournament.

Penarth were in Pool A along with Llanishan, Barry Bees and Cowbridge B. Penarth's first game was against Llanishan.

The boys started at a good pace and were first on the scoreboard with a try from Will Lloyd. Unfortunately, the boys could not really get into their stride and Llanishan were eventual winners by four tries to one.

In the second game against Barry, Penarth seemed to wake up and began putting phases together and were rewarded with five unanswered tries from Harri Williams (2) Jacob Ringer and Will Lloyd (2).

The last pool game was against Cowbridge B. By now, the lads were really getting into their stride and were deserved winners by five tries to nil with scores from Harri Williams (3) Jacob Moss and Jacob Ringer. These results put

Penarth into the semi-final with Cowbridge A from Pool B.

A great effort rewarded the boys with five unanswered tries from Charlie Jowett, Evan Morgan, Harri Williams, Jacob Ringer and Will Lloyd.

The progression into the final saw Penarth drawn again with their good friends yet arch nemesis - Llanishan! By now there were some tired and weary warriors on the pitch. Even with two well-worked tries from Liam Parker and Will Lloyd, Llanishan were well deserved winners again, by five tries to two.

Full credit has to be given to all players, coaches and supporters involved and a big thank you to Llantwit Major RFC for another fantastic tournament.

The coaching team of Andrew 'George' Williams, Ed Morgan and Derick Mbakwe would like to say well done to the whole squad of under-9s.

Squad: Lloyd Mbakwe, Jac Williams, Liam Parker, Carter Staples, Greg Cross, Charlie Jowett, William Lloyd, William Odgers, Evan Morgan, Matthew Hennessey, Connor O'Brien, Jacob Ringer, Harri Williams, Jacob Moss, Lloyd Clarke. EJM

Sea View Lads ready for change in the seasons

AS summer leaves us and autumnal weather comes in, the species we chase also change.

Sport has been mixed on both boat and shore with excellent bags of hounds making a memorable year for some.

We anticipate a good run of rays to continue and the arrival of early codling to come, perhaps even a few whiting!

The boats have seen mixed bags and fortunes. On August 13, team Bod cleaned up with father and son team, Peter and Daniel taking first and third places, while Jake Pimme took an admirable second spot, pushing the old timers out of their usual spots.

All caught fish on the day except AKA who is saving his quota for this coming weekend's conger competition, where he will be fishing under the watchful eye of his guide and angling mentor, Stringfellow.

On the first weekend of September, pleasant conditions and a decent flurry of fish ensured that the lads enjoyed some good sport. Rays and eels made up most weights with Colin weighing in over 19lb of fish and Crookie over 12lb. All in all, a nice day - it was nice to see both rays

showing (Sun and small eyed).

Shore results for September 4: 1st, Colin McKinnery; 2nd, Paul Crooke; 3rd, Royston Harding; 4th, Richard Lougher; 5th, Lee Thompson; 6th, Micky Langford.

Boat results on August 13: 1st, Bod 41lb 04oz, S Hound, Conger, Blonde Ray; 2nd, Jake Pimme 23lb 08oz, S Hound, Blonde Ray, Cod; 3rd, Dan 31b 16lb 15oz, S Hound, Conger; 4th, Edgy 9lb 08oz, Doggies, Conger; 5th, Jeremy Pimme 8lb 04oz, S Hound; 6th, Micky Langford 7lb 08oz, Doggies, Thornback Ray; 7th, ICA 4lb 08oz, Doggies, Tope; 8th, Beefy 3lb 00oz, Conger; 9th, Dave Marsh 1lb 08oz, Doggy; 10th, Aka 00lb 00oz, Zilch.

Boat double positions: 1st, Bod and ICA 270lb 12oz; 2nd, AKA and Jody 160lb 08oz; 3rd, Dan and Dan 153lb 12oz; 4th, Jeremy and Jake 139lb 08oz.



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X 00 FORD Focus Hatchback LX 1.8 5-dr. In red, cd changer, fsh, a/c, e/w, 91k, comes with 12 months MoT £1,795

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St Athan Golf Club Vets make charity day count

IN what has now become an annual event, the veterans of St Athan golf club held a four-ball better ball competition in aid of Help for Heroes.

A total of 120 golfers competed. The day started dry but by the afternoon, the golfers had to battle high winds and squally showers. Play did continue throughout the day.

The winners were as follows: Mr D Oliver, Mr E Amphlett (Corus, 44 points on count back); second, Mr A Hawkins, Mr B Briggs (St Athan, 44 points); third, Mr S Hampson, Mr J Miller (St Athan, 41 points); fourth, Mr A Davie, Mr E Hallett (St Athan, 40 points); fifth, Mr P Daniel, Mr E Parry (St Athan, 39 points).



PICTURED: Sergeant Hampson receives the cheque for Help for Heroes.

There was one 2 awarded on the par three hole, Mr D Oliver (Corus).

The longest drive, Mr B Briggs (St Athan). Nearest the pin, Mr B Craythorn (St Athan on the sixth hole); Mr M Wilding (St Athan on the seventh hole).

During the evening, a raffle and auction of items donated by members was made.

Then, Mr Dave Harris, this year's veterans' captain, presented Sergeant S Hampson with a cheque for £2,000 for Help for Heroes.

Our sincere thanks to all the local businesses for their sponsorship in making this another successful day.

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Italy is a country of passion – check the Alfa (Romeo) male!

IT'S home to the world's best lovers, according to a poll of 10,000 women from 50 different nationalities on the wayn.com website, which placed Germans at the bottom.

Who's to disagree when the exploits of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi are so well publicised?

And we all know that the way to a beautiful woman's heart is by showing her your car. If it's a Reliant Robin or Lada Riva it's highly likely she isn't going to be impressed.

No matter how much

my wife protests that this is simply not the case, I often remind her of how taken she was by my Mazda Xedos and private number plate, even if she did think it an extravagance.

She, perhaps wrongly, at the time thought I had money; and so to the Alfa Romeo 159, a car that is a statement of where you are in this life.

It shouts 'Alfa' male rather than boring old Mando man.

A bit like my Xedos of old and certainly the 157 it replaced, the 159, which was introduced in 2006, is very low to the ground, giving a similar experi-

by **TIM SAUNDERS**

ence to driving a coupe. It's eye-catching and attractive.

There is something about Italian design that sets it apart from the rest of the world and it is this that makes drivers feel that they are driving something rather special. Added to which, there aren't that many on the roads.

If you can bear to tear yourself away from the sleek exterior with body kit, lowered sports suspension, 19-inch alloys and red Brembo brake callipers, the designers have pleasingly devoted the same attention to the inside.

The black interior in the 1750ti (Turismo Internazionale) model tested is welcoming and the seats hug you tight.

Great thought has gone into the dashboard, with the driver and front passenger very much in mind.

The centre console, which houses the stereo, as well as dials for turbo, acqua and

benzina (I love the fact that the Italian hasn't been replaced with English) are all angled in the driver's direction.

The glove box is curved to slot around the front passenger's legs, which means that when it's opened it doesn't hit the knees as is sometimes the case.

The time, day and date are displayed in between the rev counter and speedo, which is very helpful for someone like me who generally doesn't know what day it is since my beautiful little daughter Harriet arrived on the scene.

A car like this is designed to be driven with gusto.

A major selling point is that the 159 provides quick acceleration between second and third gears.

This means it can be relied on for demanding overtaking in places that would otherwise be unimaginable – unless you were in a far larger, much more

expensive vehicle like a £100,000 Maserati (also made by Fiat), for instance. This is quite an achievement for a 1.8-litre.

Parkers, the car guide, says: "The replacement for the 156 follows a familiar recipe for Alfa Romeo.

Its stunning four-door body is awash with delightful details, from the triple lens headlights to the sculpted door handles.

"The interior is similarly evocative, with an emphasis on Italian-style setting it apart from alternatives; while it drives in a sporty manner with a range of powerful petrol and diesel engines, the 159 has to shake off the reputation for shoddy build quality. Alfa

Romeo claims to have addressed this, which if true means owners won't have to suffer for their passion."

The 159 created quite a stir at the office, with colleagues reminiscing about the Alfas they once owned.

The general manager, who previously owned a Spider, even asked the press office when they might be disposing of the 159, because he's interested in buying it!

New price range £22,500 – £26,665;
Used price range £5,048 – £22,656; Alfa Romeo 159ti tested – £26,665.

0-60mph: 7.7secs;
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Thompson Street, Barry and Dock View Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

Port Road West from the junction of Colcot Road to Meggit Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

A48 Cowbridge bypass – in the vicinity of the viaduct – temporary traffic control.

Unnamed lane leading to Gileston village – temporary traffic control.

Fontygary Road, Rhosce – temporary traffic control.

Romilly Park Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

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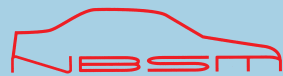
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Barry Seconds squeeze home in the last minute of a derby encounter

BARRY Seconds XV began the defence of the league title on a bright autumnal day at home to local rivals Old Penarthians.

Coach Rhydian Scott was once again faced with selection dilemmas as last minute first team call-ups, unavailability and injuries struck.

Flanker Owain Poole was moved into centre and Ashley Adams was handed the fly-half role; while in the pack Chris Prosser was recalled and Kyle Case made his first start this season.

After last week's disappointing reversal the home side started ferociously. Countering a heavier pack, scrum-half Joel Williams utilised quick ball to release the backs.

Luke Bounds, in particular, was making short work of his oppo-

site number with his pace, while Adams's boot was assisted by the wind to give his side the advantage in territory.

With the Barry pack camped in the Old Pens' twenty-two, Williams once again spread the ball out wide quickly, and this time the away defence was unable to cope as Michael Jones powered over to score in the corner. Adam Lee was unable to add the extras.

The Old Penarthians responded to the home side's pace with some intelligent kicking, backed up by a strong set piece with their heavy pack. They were duly rewarded with a try in the corner which was left unconverted.

Barry replied by piling on the pressure with their youthful back line. Bounds once again broke on the outside and

Barry 2nd XV 29 Old Penarthians 2nd XV 28

his grubber was almost gathered by Luke Hewitson, who would have been on hand to score underneath the posts.

Adams followed suit soon after and this time he off-loaded perfectly for Hewitson, who was once again in support, and he sauntered under the posts to give Lee an easy conversion.

Inexperience was shown, however, by the home side towards the end of the half, when the Old Pens took advantage of a complete lack of concentration at a penalty for them to score unopposed in the corner. The conversion was missed.

After Adams had missed a long range penalty attempt just before the interval, Ethan Dix came into centre and made an instant impact.

His first touch was to receive a perfectly timed pass for him to break the defensive line to dive

underneath the posts for his second try in two games. Lee's boot added two points.

Bounds' efforts were finally rewarded when another expansive period of play found him in space, and his pace took him past all defenders as he scored underneath the posts, with Lee adding the extras.

What followed was, however, not written in the script. With the bonus point in the bag, Barry seemed to take their foot off the pedal and the away side came back in the last quarter with two push-over tries. They reduced the deficit to just one point when a kick-and-chase on their right wing resulted in a try in the corner, but the conversion was missed.

Far from waking up from their slumbers, Barry continued to go through sloppy periods of play. Tackling was poor at this point despite tireless work by Lee Jones, and the Old

Penarthians pack was dominant.

Full back Lee made some poor decisions when faced with the high ball and on one such occasion gifted the away side a penalty opportunity.

The away side took full advantage and put themselves in the lead for the first time in the game with just minutes remaining.

With defeat imminent, Barry finally rallied and drove within five metres of the try-line. The pressure finally resulted in a penalty, of which Lee gratefully took with the last kick of the game to give his side a win which should have been secured well before the whistle.

Team: Lee; M. Jones, Bounds, Poole, Hewitson; Williams, Adams; Lundy, Prosser, Corne; Haigh (c), Tobin; L. Jones, Case, Rendall. **Subs used:** Houldey, Summerhayes, Dix, Jenkins

Man-of-the-match: L. Jones

KC

Barry under-14s start season with tournament win



BARRY RFC under-14s kicked off their season with five wins in less than a week, winning the St Joseph's tournament on September 4, and coming away victors after a bruising Friday night fixture against Pentryrch on September 9.

Following pre-season training, the boys were eager to get out of the blocks and the St Joseph's tournament held at Blackweir in Cardiff provided a great platform for them.

With eight sides split into two groups of four, Barry were drawn against Ystrad Rhondda, Llanishen and St Joe's.

The first game saw the hosts looking for revenge after Barry dumped them out of the Blues Cup competition last year. However, this wasn't to be, and starting with a strong side, Barry were able to show both the opposition and supporters how they had spent the summer months preparing for this season.

Playing 10 minutes each way, Barry saw off the Cardiff side with simple, clinical and well drilled forward play to allow quick service for the backs to spread the ball wide to the wingers.

This approach worked time and time again, resulting in Barry running in try after try and conceding only one soft score. Final score: St Joe's 5, Barry 25.

The second game against Llanishen was

again a rather one-sided match and Barry, with strength in depth, used the opportunity to play the whole squad in various positions.

New signings James Scott and Lloyd James made an immediate impact on the game and both their talents and skills will be valued this season. Despite some spirited resistance from the Cardiff side, Barry were runaway victors. Final score: Llanishen 0, Barry 43.

The last pool game was against untested Ystrad Rhondda who, despite their reputation, were no match for the Barry side.

Their aggressive forward play failed to gain any significant momentum and again Barry showed their superior skill and fitness which resulted in another victory. Final score: Ystrad Rhondda 0, Barry 35.

The final against Penarth, who were winners of the other pool, was a delight to watch. Maintaining their composure with confidence in their ability, Barry stuck to their game plan and quick ruck ball and decisive forward running released quality possession for the backs to run in the tries. This team is no one-trick pony though, and the dominant forwards also made their mark on the heavier Penarth boys. Final score: Penarth 5, Barry 36.

Coming away overall tournament winners gave both players and supporters a real taste of where this team is heading this season. The first fixture for

the team against Pentryrch on Friday night (re-arranged due to Wales' World Cup game on the Sunday) was a taste of things to come.

Pentryrch - one of the best district sides - were looking for a repeat of the victory against Barry a few seasons ago - however, it wasn't to be.

Brimming with confidence from their recent tournament victory, Barry again stuck to their game plan and bedded themselves in the opposition's 22.

Despite Pentryrch's tenacious defence they couldn't hold Barry out, and captain Cameron Gibbon cut through some weak tackling to score for a try which he then converted.

Pentryrch bounced back and uncharacteristic weak defence allowed the hosts to run in a try, leaving the half hanging in the balance at 5-7.

The visitors saw that this game was there for the taking. The forwards took no stick from the bigger Pentryrch boys and a try apiece for Scott Griffith and James Scott were easily converted by Gibbon.

Lloyd James then showed pace and foresight running in a lovely try that came from quality setpiece which again was converted by his captain. Final score: Pentryrch 5, Barry 28.

With two local tournaments and their first foray over the Severn Bridge in the coming weeks, the whole squad will be looking to build on this fantastic start to the season.

If you are an experienced rugby player and are looking to join Barry RFC under-14s, please contact Ioan Evans on 07764 256428.

IE

Sports show determination despite defeat

HOLLYBUSH 15 SULLY SPORTS 12

SULLY Sports travelled to Hollybush, hoping to continue building on their performance last week.

Sports kicked off and showed strong defence while Hollybush showed strength at the breakdown, an area that became fiercely contested during the game.

Quick hands saw Wayne Jones on the gallop up the pitch supported by Dave Stillman and Dean Russell, but Jones made it to the line, Sports taking the first score.

Hollybush started throwing everything at Sports and some strong defence, and eventually Hollybush crashed over for a well worked try.

Sports tried throwing everything at them but Hollybush took a penalty in front of the post and finished the first half with a converted try, leaving the half time score 15-5.

The old heads of Hollybush took a slight upper hand, but Sports responded with the power of their scrum. A driving ruck saw Matthew George go over for converted try, taking

the score to 15-12.

A tense final 15 minutes saw Sports press forward with most of the possession, but they were unable to cross the line.

The boys can stand very proud after this performance and it shows all their hard work is beginning to pay off.

It was also great to see a 2nd XV being put together but they also lost 5-40 against Llanishen.

Next week sees the 1st XV away to Cwmcam and the 2nd XV at home to Cardiff HSOB.

Training is on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6.30pm; anyone welcome no matter experience, size or shape.

Team: Jamie Griffith, Ross Eason, Ismael Yasin, Michael Angove (c), Alex Suchnik, Dean Russell, Jason Evans, Matthew George, John Domind, Mike Mees, Grantley Harris, Matthew Phillips, Dave Stillman, Lewis Hughes, Wayne Jones, Rees, Jody Velda, Athony Wakefield, Tom Stoman, Nathan Taylor.

MA

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Under-13 teams in a six-goal thriller

RHOOSE started the match well with some good attacking play involving Jordan Holt and Josh Brown.

It was Josh who fed the ball into the path of striker Cameron Leach, and he struck the ball firmly into the top corner to open the scoring for Rhooose.

Llantwit looked threatening on the break

RHOOSE UNDER-13s V LLANTWIT MAJOR

and created some good opportunities, but full-backs Patrick O'Carroll and Edward Thomas were on top form and made some excellent tackles.

Rhooose goalkeeper Michael Wilson had to remain focused throughout the game and domi-

nated his area well.

In the second half, Rhooose increased their lead with a superb effort from Daniel Cope whose long range effort looped over the keeper.

Llantwit continued to push forward and were soon rewarded with a well worked goal.

Midway through the second half, Rhooose captain Mitch McCabe hit a blistering left foot strike which rifled into the net.

Llantwit upped their game and Rhooose defenders Ryan Hughes and Matt Cottingham were called into action to make several timely interventions.

Lee Bartlett was unlucky not to get on the score sheet when Joe Hopkins found him in space and his strike hit the underside of the crossbar and didn't quite cross the line.

With five minutes remaining, Rhooose were looking to protect their lead, but Llantwit had other ideas and were soon just one goal behind, and a frantic last minute saw Llantwit equalise with the last kick of game.

Both teams should be congratulated on giving everything and providing the spectators with a fantastic game to watch.

MB

Alfie's comeback date set for Gnoll

THE Wales v Ireland Rugby League international on Saturday, October 22 at The Gnoll in Neath now looks as if it will definitely be the comeback date for dual-code Wales star Gareth Thomas.

The 37-year-old Crusaders' centre broke his arm in the 10-38 defeat to Hull Kingston Rovers on July 9. He had publicly announced that he had hoped to be back for Crusaders' last game of the season at Wigan last Friday but Wales and Crusaders' coach Iestyn Harris said that he wasn't ready.

He will be tested in the Ireland clash at The Gnoll before the Four

Nations tournament, which starts a week later with a clash against England in Leigh.

"He's maybe a week off full fitness," Harris said. "It was pointless risking him for the last Crusaders' game of the year and have him breaking down again. In the next month he'll be fully fit, and he'll be ready for the training camp with Wales and for the Ireland match."

"The side for Ireland will be close to the team that I would hope to field against England a week later."

Thomas is one of a handful of players who have yet to announce their plans for 2012, following Crusaders' withdrawal from Super League.

Petanque Triples a great success at Monkstone

THE recent Monkstone Petanque Club Inaugural Triples was a resounding success.

The club secretary, Roger Griffin, said: "We had a sunny day and to see our new pistes crowded with some 50 'boulers' from all over south Wales, and also Brecon, Bristol and Haverfordwest, was wonderful."

"Everyone seemed to be having a great time. I am pleased to say that £100 in prize money went to the winners and runners-up."

The winners were from Wenvoe PC, The Cannanballs, comprising Dave Cannan, Bob Pugh and Tony Jellings. Runners-up were the Incridiboules from Caerleon and Whisheaf PCs, and included Barbara Vaughan, Steve Brace and Jill Brace.

Try out archery!

CAERAU Dragon Archery Club is having a 'Have a Try, Barbecue and Shoot' day on September 18, at St. Richard Gwyn High School from 12 noon till 2 pm.

A spokesman said: "The public is welcome, so if you would like to try your hand at archery, come along!"



GEM sport

Wales must learn Springboks' lesson, and take their chances

ON June 26, 1999, almost exactly a year to the day since the 96-13 horror show at Bloemfontein, Wales stunned mighty South Africa with a historic 29-19 win in Cardiff's half-completed new Millennium Stadium – still being made ready to host the Rugby World Cup in the autumn.

As the final whistle blew, I well remember that proud Welshman, the late, much-lamented BBC broadcaster, Bob Humphrys, beaming with delight and clasping me in a huge bear hug – amid euphoric scenes tinged with stunned disbelief at the shock result.

Even that epic day came agonisingly close to being eclipsed on Sunday in the remarkable World Cup clash with the reigning champions in Wellington, New Zealand – as Wales strove with might and main to record only their second victory over the Springboks in 26 encounters since 1906 (one match was drawn).

With 15 minutes to go to full time, this transformed young Welsh side were deservedly leading 16-10, having matched the gnarled Bok veterans in every department up front, and completely dominating both possession and territory for large chunks of the game.

In fact, disbelief on this occasion centred more on the stark fact that despite undoubtedly being much the better side for 70 minutes, Wales hadn't won the game!

And therein lies the tale – for unfortunately, it was the other 10 minutes that counted, and ultimately decided the outcome of this Pool D thriller.

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

Two converted tries, one in the first five minutes and the other near the end, plus a penalty, handed a scrambled 17-16 victory to the Springboks who in between had been made to look anything but world champs, and were visibly relieved to hear the final whistle.

After gifting an early try in the corner, Wales reduced the arrears with two penalty kicks by James Hook, turning around at halftime 10-6. (A third Hook penalty was controversially disallowed by the referee, to add to the list of ifs and buts that came in the post-match 'inquest').

With forwards holding firm, and Wales commanding the breakdown – courageously led by man-of-the-match, skipper Sam Warburton – they seemed on course for a stunning victory when dynamic No 8 Toby Faletau plunged over for a try converted by Hook (adding to an earlier penalty) to make the score 16-10.

Alas, the second South African touchdown dashed the cup from Welsh lips, although the men in red had two more gilt-edged chances. Outstanding young outside half Rhys Priestland pulled a drop goal attempt wide of the upright and the otherwise excellent Hook did likewise with a penalty in the dying minutes.

Once again, it had been a frustrating case of so near, yet so far, for this steadily-improving Welsh team who have yet to learn how to apply the *coup de gras* when they have well-beaten opponents on the ropes.



ABOVE: Dejection in the wake of a golden opportunity missed – Welsh players trudge off the field on Sunday. Now they must raise themselves up again for a game that could well decide their World Cup fate.

PICTURE BY HUW EVANS AGENCY

As head coach Warren Gatland candidly put it: "At this level, it's all about taking your chances... We did everything but win the game. We had our chances, but were just not quite good enough..."

"We're knocking at the door, but we're not quite there yet."

For young players who to a man had given

their all for the cause and had almost pulled off what would have been the shock result of RWC 2011 so far, the end product of all their efforts was galling.

The question now is, can they overcome the acute disappointment and lift themselves in time to face the next challenge in this toughest of all groups?

They knew it was a priceless chance missed, not only to maintain the momentum of warm-up wins over England and Argentina, with a Tri-Nations scalp, but more importantly, to head up Pool D and gain crucial advantage in the jockeying for a place in the quarter finals.

The irony is that while England, Scotland and Ireland were woefully unimpressive in their opening Pool games, yet still came away with a win, Wales alone of the northern hemisphere teams, suffered defeat – despite their heroic performance.

They now have to face Samoa, so long the scourge of Welsh World Cup teams, knowing that it is one game they simply cannot afford to lose.

Another Herculean effort is called for, but the players now know that a quality performance may not be enough.

That surely was the painful lesson rammed home last Sunday by the current world champions, who knew they had been comprehensively outplayed for most of the match, but didn't care – for all that mattered in the end was the one point difference in the scoreline.

No doubt this week, the words of the head coach quoted earlier will be ringing in the Welsh players' ears:

"At this level, it is all about taking your chances."

Dinas Powys sail through to the next round of league Cup after victory

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LAST week saw Dinas make progress in the Welsh Cup and this week they repeated the process, this time in the Nathaniel Car Sales League Cup.

It was against League One opponents Cwmbran Celtic, who are some twenty places above them but you wouldn't think so on this showing.

It was the visitors who started the sharper and Dinas were grateful to keeper Damien Lack who pushed away a Dale Howarth free-kick in the first minute, and then got down well to save a Scott Lanyon effort after the Dinas defence had been opened up on the right.

Dinas had their first chance in the tenth minute when Ricki Morgan played in Paul McCarthy who tried to go round keeper Giles Cutlan, but he was able to get a hand to the ball and push it out for an unproductive corner.

McCarthy then had another effort this time too high before player manager Geza Hajgato gave Liam Jeremy an opportunity to turn and shoot, but the keeper turned the ball round the post for a corner.

After a bright start the visitors were being forced to defend

with Jo Hinds, and Gareth Tedstone twice, having efforts on goal.

Indecision in the visitors' defence gave Morgan an opportunity, the ball going out for a corner with Hinds getting in front of a defender to head just over. When Celtic did get a shot on goal they found keeper Lack in great form.

The home side got the opening goal they deserved a couple of minutes before half-time when good inter-passing between Morgan and Tedstone opened up the defence giving Liam Jeremy the chance to chip the keeper from twelve yards.

There was still time for more action in the half and, when a slip in the Dinas defence gave Owen Llewellyn room to get into the box, Lack was once again equal to the effort.

It was the home side who had the last shout when Morgan forced a mistake from the keeper, allowing Tedstone a chance to shoot but keeper Cutlan made up for his error, pushing the effort out for a corner, the referee blowing for half-time shortly after.

Dinas continued the second half where they left off in the first, and with ten minutes gone they doubled the lead.

McCarthy picked up the ball midway in the opponents' half before making his way into the left side of the area, producing an excellent cross that evaded Tedstone – but Morgan made no mistake, drilling a low shot past the keeper from twelve yards.

The home side continued to play with confidence with Tedstone forcing the keeper to push the ball behind for a corner. It was indecision in the visiting defence, with the keeper and a defender leaving the ball to each other, that enabled Kyle Offer to chance to get a toe to the ball to push it over the line for the home side's third goal.

With fifteen minutes to go Dinas made changes, wisely taking off a couple of players who had received bookings. It was the visitors who had the best opportunity near the end of the game with Llewellyn shooting powerfully from twenty-five yards only to see Lack produce a good save to keep the home side's goal intact.

Dinas made their way through to the next round of the Cup with a good team performance; but in particular keeper Lack stopped everything thrown at him, Hinds covered well at the back, Morgan, Hinds, and Offer won the midfield battle,

and up front Tedstone and McCarthy were a handful for the visiting defence.

Squad: 1. Damien Lack, 2. Geza Hajgato, 3. Chris Hinam, 4. Mike Lewis, 5. Dave Penikett, 6. Jo Hinds, 7. Ricki Morgan(1), 8. Kyle Offer(1), 9. Gareth Tedstone, 10. Paul McCarthy, 11. Liam Jeremy(1). **Subs:** 12. Rhys Davies, 14. Steve Provis, 15. Richard Yarr, 16. Nicky Bruce, 17. Joe Briscoe.

Next game: Welsh League Division Two, Saturday, September 24, Garden Village v Dinas Powys (kick off 2:30pm).

For further news and fixtures see the club's website: www.dinaspowysfc.co.uk

MW

After last week's opening day victory over Wattstown, Barry RFC hoped to continue their good start away at Pontyclun - but how did they get on? Turn to page 28 to find out!